This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

H.D.
L.SOC.
48.
37

Digitized by Google

A.SOC.48.97

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

LIBRARY
OF THE
PEABODY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN
ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY

Received

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

3.

No. 7.

THE TRANSACTIONS

AND

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

DUMFRIESSHIRE AND GALLOWAY

Natural History & Antiquarian Society.

Series 2. Vol. 7

SESSION 1890-91.

PRINTED AT THE COURIER AND HERALD OFFICES, DUMFRIES.

1891.

Digitized by Google

L. Soc. 48.37 ser. 2, vol. 7
Gift of the Society
Rec. 2/1/92

Digitized by Google

COUNCIL.

President.

RICHARD RIMMER, F.L.S., Dalawoodie.

Vice-Presidents.

REV. WILLIAM ANDSON.
JAMES BARBOUR, Architect.
THOMAS M'KIE, F.S.A., Advocate.
JAMES G. HAMILTON STARKE, M.A., F.S.A., Advocate.

Secretary.

EDWARD J. CHINNOCK, M.A., LL.D., Fern Bank, Maxwelltown.

Treasurer.

JOHN A. MOODIE, Solicitor, Bank of Scotland.

Librarian.

JAMES LENNOX, F.S.A., Edenbank, Maxwelltown,

Curator of Museum.

JAMES DAVIDSON, Summerhill, Maxwelltown.

Curator of Herbarium.

GEORGE F. SCOTT-ELLIOT, M.A., B.Sc., F.L.S., Newton.

Other Members.

JOHN BROWN.
JOHN COWAN.
THOMAS LAING.
ROBERT M'GLASHAN.
ROBERT MURRAY.
JOHN NEILSON, M.A.
GEORGE H. ROBB, M.A.
PHILIP SULLEY, F. Hist. S.
JAMES S. THOMSON.
JAMES WATT.

Digitized by Google

CONTENTS.

	Page
Secretary's Annual Report	2
Treasurer's Annual Report	4
Observations on the Temperature of the Dee. W. Andson ...	6
Martyr Graves of Dumfriesshire. J. H. Thomson	8
Notes on Dumfriesshire Flora. G. F. Scott-Elliot	13
Pre-Historic Colony at Anwoth. F R. Coles	17
Botanical Notes from Wigtownshire, &c. J. M'Andrew	25
List of Lichens Gathered in Dumfriesshire, &c. J. M'Andrew ...	28
Folk Lore of Glencairn. J. Corrie	37, 75
Flora of the Moffat District. J. T. Johnstone	45
Meteorology of Dumfries for 1890. W. Andson	51
Remnants of an Ancient Language. P. Dudgeon	54
Report on Mr Carruthers' Donation. G. F. Scott-Elliot	59
References to Dumfriesshire Flora in Shakespeare, &c. J. Shaw...	59
Further Original Letters of the Burns Period. J. R. Wilson ...	64
Notes on the Flora of Dumfriesshire. A. Bennett	84
Military Preparations in Dumfriesshire during the last War with France. R. W. Weir	86
Lower Carboniferous System in Dumfriesshire. J. Dairon... ...	103
Genus Rosa in Nithsdale. J. Fingland	106
Annan in the Eighteenth Century. F. Miller	108
British Plants in Southern California. A. Davidson	112
Connection between Saxon-English and Latin. E. J. Chinnock ...	115
Holywood Abbey. G. F. Black...	126
Meteorological Notes on the past Winter. P. Dudgeon	129
Dumfries Academy in 1801-3. E. J. Chinnock	133
Field Meetings	139
Report on Herbarium. G. F. Scott-Elliot	142
List of Honorary and Life Members	144
List of Books in the Dinwiddie Library. J. Lennox	145
Rules	150

Digitized by Google

PROCEEDINGS AND TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

DUMFRIESSHIRE AND GALLOWAY

NATURAL HISTORY & ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

SESSION 1890-91.

3rd October, 1890.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Major BOWDEN, Vice-President, in the Chair.

New Members.—Rev. George Laurie Fogo, of Torthorwald; Rev. Patrick M. Playfair, of Glencairn; Mr John Rae, Rashiegrain, Teviothead; Miss Ethel Taylor, Kirkandrews Rectory, Longtown.

Donations.—From the Rev. R. W. Weir, a portrait of Dr Mounsey, the court physician to the Czarina Catherine II. in 1768, and a copy of the pamphlet published in 1815 by Dr Duncan on Savings Banks; the Report of the Bureau of Ethnology (Washington), 1883-5; Report of the British Association, 1889; the Essex Naturalist, October, 1889—June, 1890; Report of the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club; Report of Marlborough College Natural History Society; Proceedings of the Canadian Institute, Toronto, April, 1890; Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society; Transactions of the New York Academy of Sciences; the Problem of the Ohio Mounds; the Textile Fabrics of Ancient Peru; Bibliography of the Iroquoian languages; Bibliography of the Muskhogean languages; the Circular Square and Octagonal Earthworks of Ohio; the Smithsonian Report of the United States' National Museum, 1886-7; Transactions of the Cryptogamic Society of Scotland, 1889; Bulletin of Minnesota Academy of Natural Sciences; Proceedings

Digitized by Google

of the Holmesdale Natural History Club; the United States' Geological Survey Report for 1887; a photograph of the Urns found in a cist at High Banks, Kirkcudbright, presented by Mr John M'Kie; five botanical papers presented by the author, Mr G. F. Scott-Elliot.

Secretary's Report.

The Secretary (Dr Edward J. Chinnock) read his annual report:—There are now 195 members on the roll of our Society, of whom 23 are honorary members, 7 life members, and 165 ordinary members. Four new honorary members were elected during the session—Mr J. G. Baker, F.R.S., of Kew, and our own townsmen, Messrs William Hastings, Walter Lennon, and Robert Barbour, the late secretary. A considerable number of members resigned on account of the subscription being increased, but 17 new members have been elected. If this rate of increase is maintained, we shall soon regain our former numbers, and there will be little difficulty in even rising beyond them, if the same interest is taken in the work of the Society as has been shown during the past session. The removal from the district of Drs Anstruther Davidson and John Cunningham has been a loss to the Society. Among the members who have been removed by death may be mentioned Mr Walter Grierson of Chapelmount; Dr W. S. Kerr; Rev. James M'Farlan, of Ruthwell; Captain Constable Maxwell of Terregles; and Mr J. H. Maxwell, of Castle-Douglas—all men of mark.

Eight evening meetings and three field meetings have been held. At the former 17 papers were read, some of them of considerable value and interest. Without detracting from the merit of other contributors, the communications of Messrs Dudgeon, Andson, Scott-Elliot, J. R. Wilson, and G. F. Black may be mentioned as particularly worthy of notice. The field meetings were well attended and enthusiastic. It is hoped that the excursion to the Border, planned for September, which was omitted on account of unsettled weather, may be made next June.

The thanks of the Society are due to Messrs Andson, M'Andrew, and Scott-Elliot for their valuable scientific researches during the past session. Mr Scott-Elliot especially has been actively employed in collecting materials for our herbarium, which under his indefatigable management promises to

Digitized by Google

be one of the best in Great Britain. But while we admire the enthusiasm of youth, we do not forget our old colleague, Mr M'Andrew, whose work in the botanical field would do honour to any man in the country. We are still favoured with valuable contributions from him, shewing that his energy in observation is quite as vigorous now as ever it has been. His valuable botanical lists are now being printed in our Transactions, and he is sending in fresh ones still. Mr Scott-Elliot's classes for botany held during the summer deserve honourable mention in this report. This gentleman's efforts are worthy of all praise, and it is an honour to our Society to possess two such thorough botanists as Messrs M'Andrew and Scott-Elliot. The ladies, Miss Hannay and Miss M. Aitken, who are assisting Mr Scott-Elliot in superintending the herbarium, are deserving of the warmest thanks of the Society.

Last session we had the valuable Baxter bequest of minerals and coins. This year we have received an equally valuable donation, that of the late Robert Dinwiddie's scientific library, from his son, Mr Robert Dinwiddie, of New York. Mr Dinwiddie's affection for his native town is another illustration of Horace's line—"*Cœlum, non animum, mutat qui trans mare currit.*" We have now the nucleus of a good scientific library, and thanks to the exertions of our librarian the books are ready for use by the members whenever they like to avail themselves of the privilege. Another valuable donation is that of Mrs Walter Grierson, who, since the death of her husband, and carrying out his wish as well as her own, has presented to the Society the valuable collection of plants made by her late son, Dr Frank Grierson. This has been placed under the care of Mr Scott-Elliot, and added to our herbarium. I had the pleasure since the last meeting of conveying to Mrs Grierson the thanks of the Society for her donation.

The exhibition of the Baxter minerals and coins, together with a collection of portraits of Dumfries and Galloway worthies, held in November, was a decided success. This success was greatly due to the exertions of Messrs Barbour, Davidson, and Lennox. It is hoped that the attempt to form a permanent collection of portraits of old Dumfriesshire and Galloway celebrities will be borne in mind and prove a reality. For this purpose funds are

Digitized by Google

required, and contributions will be thankfully welcomed by the officials of the Society.

Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer (Mr John A. Moodie) read his annual report :—

Charge.

Balance in Treasurer's hands at close of last account...				£0	14 8½
Balance at Credit of Society with Dumfries Savings Bank				3	8 6
Subscriptions from 131 Members at 5s...				32	15 0
Entrance Fees from 20 new Members at 2s 6d ...				2	10 0
Arrears recovered from Members				3	0 0
Subscription from Life Member				2	2 0
Drawings at Door during the Exhibition of Baxter Bequest of Geological Specimens, &c., in November last	£3	6	9		
Less Expenses in connection therewith ...	2	4	6		
				1	2 3
Copies of Transactions sold				0	3 0
Interest on Bank Account				0	0 8
				£45	16 1½

Discharge.

Paid Mr G. F. Black, Sub-Curator, Antiquarian Museum, Edinburgh, his fee for Transcribing from the Riddell MS. Edgar's History of Dumfries				£3	3 0
Paid John Grierson & Son for Herbarium, per estimate				2	6 6
,, for Stationery, Printing, &c.				2	5 6
,, for Advertising				1	15 6
,, for Periodicals, Books, &c.				1	0 4
,, Salary of Keeper of Rooms				1	10 0
,, Secretary's Outlays...				2	4 7½
,, Treasurer's Outlays...				0	19 9
,, Expenses of Calling Meetings as follows :—					
Post Cards	£3	9	8½		
Gratuity for Addressing same at 1s per 100	1	4	0		
Robert Johnstone, Printer ...	1	0	0		
				5	13 8½
,, Premium of Insurance				0	4 9
,, Gas Account				0	8 9
,, Miscellaneous Accounts				0	15 6½
				£22	9 1½
Balance of Funds in favour of Society as follows :—					
(1) Cash in Treasurer's hands ...	£0	11	0		
(2) Balance in Savings Bank ...	22	16	0		
				23	7 0
				£45	16 1½

Digitized by Google

Election of Office-Bearers.

The following were elected office-bearers and members of the committee for the ensuing session :—President, Richard Rimmer, F.L.S.; Vice-Presidents, James Barbour, Major Herbert G. Bowden, Thomas M'Kie (advocate), and James G. Hamilton Starke, M.A. (advocate); Treasurer, John A. Moodie; Secretary, Edward J. Chinnock, LL.D.; Curator of Herbarium, George F. Scott-Elliot, M.A.; Librarian, James Lennox; Curator of Museum, James Davidson; Members of Council—Rev. William Andson, John Cowan, William Dickie, Thomas Laing, Robert M'Glashan, Robert Murray, John Neilson, M.A.; George H. Robb, M.A., James S. Thomson, and James Watt.

The Secretary read a report from Mr G. F. Scott-Elliot, B.Sc., on the progress made in the formation of the County Herbarium. This report was printed in the last volume of the Transactions.

The Rev. Adam Andrew, of Chingleput, Madras, exhibited a fine collection of ancient stone implements and weapons from India. His address aroused a great deal of interest, and an animated discussion ensued. The thanks of the Society were awarded to him, on the motion of Mr Watt.

7th November, 1890.

Mr Thomas M'Kie, V.P., in the Chair.

New Member.—Bailie Alexander Scott, solicitor, Annan.

Donations.—The Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Society of North Carolina for 1890; also, a Palmyra Palm-leaf Book was presented by the Rev. Adam Andrew, of Chingleput, who supplied the following description of it:—This is a Palmyra palm-leaf book, said to be 200 years old, and contains a Telûgû version of two *parvas* or books of one of the two great Indian Epics, called the Mahâbârata. It is written in the Telûgû character, Telûgû being one of the Dravidian languages of South India, spoken by ten millions of people. The Mahâbârata is probably the longest poem in the world. It contains about 220,000 lines, and is divided into 18 *parvas* or books. It was written at some period between the sixth and third centuries B.C. It deals

Digitized by Google

chiefly with the great war between the Kauravas and the Pândavas, who were descendants, through Bhârata, from Puru, one of the founders of the two great branches of the Lunar race. The object of the great war was the kingdom in North India, whose capital was Hastinâ-pura, the ruins of which are traceable 57 miles north-east of Delhi. The two sections composing this Telûgû version are called—(1) the *Virâta-parva*, which details the adventures of the Pândavas in the thirteenth year of their exile while they were in the service of King Virâta; and (2) the *Udyôga-parva*, which treats of the preparations for war made by the Kauravas and the Pândavas.

Mr Robert Maxwell-Witham exhibited, through Mr J. S. Thomson, a compass and sun-dial carried by William Maxwell when he was out in the '45.

Communications.

I. *Observations on the Temperature of the River Dee and its Estuary during the past year.* By the Rev. William Andson.

Rev. Mr Andson read a paper embodying the results of observations on the temperature of the river Dee at Tongland, taken by the Rev. W. I. Gordon, and of its estuary taken by Mr Macdonald, lighthouse-keeper, on the island of Little Ross. Those of the river had been taken daily from 9th September, 1889, to 15th August, 1890, usually about half-an-hour after noon. The mean temperature of the air for the period over which the observations extended was 54·5 degrees; of the water, 50·5 degrees; mean difference of air above water, 4 degrees. Mr Andson's own observations for the Nith brought out a mean 2 degrees lower for the water and 1·7 degree lower for the air; but the periods of observation were not coincident, the spring and summer being in the case of the Nith for 1889 and in that of the Dee for 1890, and there was a slight difference in the hours at which the observations were taken. There was an almost exact coincidence in the mean difference between the temperature of the air and water, the excess of the former in the case of the Nith being 4·3 degrees, compared with 4 degrees in the case of the Dee. With reference to the observations at Little Ross, he expressed the opinion that they must be regarded

Digitized by Google

as applying to the temperature of the Solway rather than of the estuary; the width of the estuary at the point being more than two miles, so that the water of the river must bear a very small proportion to that of the sea with which it mingled. The observations in this case were taken daily for a whole year, from 1st August, 1889, to 31st July, 1890. The means for the year of air and water were precisely the same—50·3 degrees. There were seven months in which the mean temperature of the water exceeded that of the air, viz., August, September, October, November, December, February, and July. The observations of the Nith estuary, taken at Kingholm Quay, showed that there were two months out of the ten over which they extended in which the mean temperature of the water was higher than that of the air; and if June had been included he had little doubt there would have been three. In the case of the rivers the temperature of the water did not rise above that of the air in any month. Of the seven months in which this occurred in the Little Ross observations, the most considerable excess was in October, November, December, and February, when it ranged from 2·2 degrees to 2·9 degrees. The conclusion he was led to form was that the Solway Firth had a higher relative temperature than that of the rivers which flow into it—a fact which might probably be explained partly by the influence of the Gulf Stream, and partly by the much larger body of water represented by the Solway, which secured greater uniformity of temperature throughout the year. A table of seasonal variations for the rivers and Solway brought out the following results:—Spring Quarter (including March, April, and May)—Nith, 47·8 degrees; Dee, 50·9 degrees; Solway, 47 degrees. Summer Quarter (June, July, and August)—Nith, 60·2 degrees; Dee, 61·1 degrees; Solway, 57·5 degrees. Autumn Quarter (September, October, and November)—Nith, 47·1 degrees; Dee, 49·8 degrees; Solway, 53·1 degrees. Winter Quarter (December, January, and February)—Nith, 38·9 degrees; Dee, 40·2 degrees; Solway, 43·5 degrees. It thus appeared that, while in spring and summer the waters of the Solway had a lower temperature than that of the rivers, the reverse held good in the autumn and winter. This seemed to dispose of the idea that the higher relative temperature of the Solway was caused by the flowing of the tide over the sands left bare at ebb and heated by the sun. In that case

Digitized by Google

they would have expected that the spring, and especially the summer temperatures, would have been in excess of the rivers, whereas it was in fact lower.

II. *Exhibit of Linnæan Plants.*

Mr James Fingland, Thornhill, sent for exhibition to the Society an extensive and beautifully mounted collection of plants, chiefly from continental countries and some from the northern states of America, which he had obtained through the Linnæan Exchange Club in return for specimens of the flora of this locality. Along with them he sent a short communication, pointing out to botanists who wished to pursue the study systematically that this afforded an inexpensive method of perfecting their collections.

III. *The Martyr Graves of Dumfriesshire.* By the Rev. John H. Thomson, of Hightae.

Shortly after the Revolution of 1688 the Societies—that is, the confederation of the more strict Presbyterians that had been organised in 1681, and continued through all the years of persecution to hold meetings at short intervals in spite of all the efforts of Government to prevent them or put them down—took steps to erect stones over the graves of those who had suffered death during the reigns of the last of the Stuarts. At first it would seem as if each district society had proceeded to erect a memorial stone or stones to those who had been buried in their neighbourhood. The minutes of the general meetings of the societies still exist, and the earliest notice in their pages of the martyr stones is under date "Crawfordjohn, Oct. 29, 1701," but the language of the minute implies something had already been done at an earlier time. The minute is :—

"Crawfordjohn, October 29, 1701.

"First concluded that all the correspondences provide and make ready stones as signs of honour to be set upon the graves of our late martyrs as soon as possible; and all the names of the foresaid martyrs with their speeches and testimonies and by whom they were martyred or killed in house or fields, country or city, as far as possible to be brought to the next General Meeting in order for the epitaphs."

No further notice of the stones appears in the minutes until ten years afterwards, when their erection would seem to have been

Digitized by Google

completed. At a meeting held at Crawfordjohn, October 6th, 1711, it is recorded:—"The several correspondences were appointed to take a copy of the epitaphs engraven upon the martyrs' gravestones in their several bounds to be brought to the next general meeting." Two years later there is another notice. It is:—

"Crawfordjohn, October 26, 1713.

"The several correspondences are appointed to take care to get a true list of the martyrs who were shot or otherwise killed without process of law, their names, abodes, time and place of their deaths, who killed them, and any other particulars about them, with a true duplicate of the elegies on all the gravestones against the 1st of January, to be sent to Edinburgh."

The result of these labours of the societies appeared in a volume without publisher's names or place of publication. It is simply said to be

"Printed in the Year MDCCXIV."

and entitled: "A Cloud of Witnesses for the Royal Prerogatives of Jesus Christ; or, The Last Speeches and Testimonies of those who suffered for the truth in Scotland since the year 1680." The volume closes with the usual FINIS, and a list of errata prefaced by a candid confession that the book is not immaculate.

"Good Reader,—There being several Mistakes of the Press in this Impression, too many to bear any Reasonable Apology; 'tis hoped thy Candor and Ingenuity will pardon the smaller, and thy Pen amend the greater which mar or alter the sense, a List whereof follows."

After this list come six pages with double columns in small brevier type. The six pages begin:—

"To fill up the Vacancy of some Pages, 'tis conceived, that it will be neither impertinent to the subject nor unacceptable to the Reader to insert the following EPITAPHS or Inscriptions that are upon the TOMBS or GRAVE-STONES of the Martyrs, in several Churchyards, and other Places where they ly Buried. And the Reader is desired to Remember, that they being mostly Composed by illiterate country people, One can not reasonably Expect Neatness and Elegant Poetry in 'em, and therefore will readily pardon any Harshness in the Phrase or Metre which he may meet with."

Thirty-eight of these "Epitaphs or Inscriptions" are given. Ten of them are upon stones in Dumfriesshire. These ten are said to be:—

Upon the Grave-stone of Andrew Hyslop lying in Craickhaugh in Eskdalemoor,

Digitized by Google

In the Church-Yard of Dumfreis upon the Grave-stone of John Grierson who lived in the parish of Irongray.

Upon the Grave-stone of William Welsh in the same Church-Yard.

In the same Church-Yard on the Grave-stone of James Kirko.

Upon three several Grave-stones lying on John Gibson, James Bennoch, Robert Edgar, and Robert Mitchell, who were shot at Inglestoun in the Parish of Glencairn.

On Robert Edgar and Robert Mitchell, both under one stone.

Upon a stone in Tynron Church-Yard lying on William Smith.

Upon Daniel Mackmichael who was shot by Dalziel of Kirkmichael Jan. 1685, lying in the Church-Yard of Durisdeer.

The poetry of these epitaphs is in keeping with what is said of it in the introductory words already quoted from the "Cloud of Witnesses," but although not "elegant," or marked by neatness, it has a rough vigour not unsuitable to the times whose deeds of blood it seeks to keep in memory, and it always breathes a strong conviction of the righteousness of the cause for which the martyrs laid down their lives. One specimen will suffice to show what they are. It is the epitaph upon the gravestone of Daniel Mackmichael, in Durisdeer Churchyard :—

AS DANIEL CAST WAS INTO LYON'S DEN
FOR PRAYING UNTO GOD AND NOT TO MEN,
THUS LYONS CRUELLY DEVOURED ME,
FOR BEARING UNTO TRUTH MY TESTIMONY.
I REST IN PEACE, TIL JESUS REND THE CLOUD
AND JUDGE 'TWIXT ME AND THOSE WHO SHED MY BLOOD.

All these gravestones still exist. In most cases the letters have been re-cut. Some of them by their deep cutting show that they have been operated upon by Robert Paterson, the Old Mortality of Sir Walter Scott. In several cases, as in Dumfries Churchyard, the stones in recent years, for better preservation, have been set up on supports a foot or more from the ground. As a rule, they are easily found by the footpath made in the grass by a constant succession of visitors to the spot where they lie. Besides these stones whose inscriptions appear in the "Cloud of Witnesses" of 1714, there are several stones in other parts of Dumfriesshire.

In Tinwald Churchyard there is a stone with a long inscription to the memory of John Corbet. The first part of the

Digitized by Google

inscription is in prose; the second part, extending to fourteen lines, is in rhyme. The first part tells the story. It is:

HERE · LYES · THE · CORPS · OF · JOHN ·
CORBET · WHO · DIED · THE · 17 · OF ·
MARCH · 1706 · AND · OF · HIS · AGE ·
63 · YEARS · WHO · WAS · TAKEN ·
IN · THE · YEAR · 1684 · BY · A · PARTY ·
OF · CLAVERHOUSE · HIS · TROUPE ·
AND · WAS · BANISHED · BY · THE ·
WICKED · COUNSELL · OF · SCOTLAND ·
TO · EAST · JARSEY · 1685 · AND ·
RETURNED · THE · YEAR · 1687 ·

The letters on the stone have been recently re-cut and deepened, and the stone itself set upon supports about a foot from the ground. The stone, previous to its being re-cut, had the marks of age. The letters were all but obliterated by the feet of pilgrims that had come to visit it, and it had quite the appearance of being the work of the first half of last century, probably not long after the death of Corbet. There was a society in Tinwald, and a William Wilson, the writer of a number of forgotten pamphlets and books, was connected with it. Several of his books are in a species of rude rhyme. He is most likely to have been the author of the epitaph upon the gravestone of Samuel Rutherford in St. Andrews, that seems to have been first published in the fourth edition of the "Cloud of Witnesses," issued in Glasgow in 1741. Rutherford's epitaph in the Cloud has the note "Oct. 9th, 1735, by W. W.," and its rhyme is remarkably like that of Wilson in his published books. If I am correct in assigning the rhymes upon Corbet's tombstone to William Wilson, it is not at all unlikely that he wrote the inscriptions on the two stones next to be mentioned.

In Closeburn Churchyard there is a stone to the memory of John Mathieson. The stone has had an eventful history. Dr Simpson, in his Traditions of the Covenanters, chap. xiii., p. 165 (new edition of 1889), says the stone was erected by his children. On it were the names of Mathieson and the persons who were banished along with him, and also the name of the informer who led to their apprehension. This stone was one night destroyed by the informer, but Mathieson's descendants compelled him to restore it, with the omission of what was said about himself.

Digitized by Google

When I visited the graveyard about five years ago, in the company of the Rev. James Hutton, of Closeburn, I was taken to the stone, but was told that for some reason or other Mathieson's representatives had put another stone upon the top of it, so that while I could see the sides of the stone, the inscription itself was no longer visible. Mathieson was seized by a party of dragoons and banished to New Carolina. Shortly after his arrival he managed to escape, but he had many adventures and much suffering to pass through before he got back to Closeburn, in the autumn of 1687. He survived his wanderings for many years and died October 1, 1709. Dr Simpson, of Sanquhar, says "there is a pretty large account of his sufferings and wanderings written by himself in the possession of a family in Galloway, but it is questionable if it can be recovered." Dr Simpson does not seem to have known of the existence of a rare 18mo. volume printed in Kilmarnock in 1806, for the non-hearer, John Calderwood of Clanfin, entitled—"A Collection of Dying Testimonies of some Holy and Pious Christians, who lived in Scotland before, and since the Revolution." It contains a Testimony by Mathieson extending to eleven pages. It is very possible that this Testimony is the account to which Dr Simpson refers. Along with a great deal of testifying against what he regarded as evils of his time it gives a brief but vivid narrative of his sufferings. This rare volume did not escape the wide research of Lord Macaulay. In a note to the sixteenth chapter of his history he calls Mathieson's Testimony "one of the most curious of the many curious papers written by the Covenanters."

In Dalgarnock Churchyard there is a stone to the memory of James Harkness, farmer in the east end of Closeburn. James Harkness was a man of unusual daring, and took a leading part in the deliberations of the Presbyterians of his district. He became a marked man, and found it prudent to retire to Ireland, then a place of refuge to Scotsmen, but after a short stay he returned to Scotland. Here he and some friends were captured by Claverhouse, and sent to Edinburgh for trial. They were imprisoned in Canongate jail, but on September 16, 1683, he and twenty-five others managed to escape. In reading the story of the escape as given by Wodrow [Book III., chapter vii., section 2] it seems exceedingly like the work of a skilful and fearless man, such as Harkness was. He afterwards planned and success-

Digitized by Google

fully carried out the rescue of the Covenanters at the pass of Enterkin so graphically described by Defoe in his "Memoirs of the Church of Scotland." He long outlived the Revolution, and died December 6, 1723, in his seventy-second year.

At Alan's Cairn, at a spot where the parishes of Penpont and Tynron in Dumfriesshire and Carsphairn in Kirkcudbrightshire meet together, a stone that in time became a cairn has long marked the spot where rest the mortal remains of George Alan and Margaret Gracie. John Semple, the outed minister of Carsphairn, had been holding a conventicle in what has come to be called the Whig's Hole, a deep hollow that seems as if it had been formed for a meeting place for the persecuted in troublous times. It suddenly sinks down on the Altry hill, not far from the water of Ken, and cannot be seen until its edge is reached. Here a large congregation was gathered, and Semple was in the midst of his sermon when the watcher gave the signal that the dragoons were approaching. The assembly at once broke up. Semple and a few of the older people were taken to a deep moss hag near at hand, while the younger folks fled in an opposite direction to reach another moss hag through which the dragoons could not pass. But they were too late. The dragoons intercepted them before they accomplished their purpose, and fired. Several were wounded, and George Alan and Margaret Gracie were shot dead. On the evening of the following day friends stole under the covert of night to the spot and buried the dead, where they now lie. In 1857 a pillar with an inscription was erected over the grave.

In Kirkmichael parish, on the high grounds that rise up on the west of Glenkilt Burn to the height of eleven hundred feet, and form a table land, the Ordnance Map has marked "Gibb's corse, Martyr's stone." The stone is of some size, and makes one wonder how it got there. It is easily come upon in the moor. Who Gibb was, or how he came to be reckoned a martyr, I have not met any one able to tell me.

IV. *Notes on the Dumfriesshire Flora, with new Localities received from correspondents.* By GEORGE F. SCOTT-ELLIOT, F.L.S.

I was enabled this summer to pay a short visit to some of the outlying districts of Dumfriesshire, and though my time was very

Digitized by Google

short and the weather very unfavourable, I was still able to note some interesting facts which may perhaps be of some use. First, with regard to the botanical districts of the county, it is instructive to compare our flora with that of Derbyshire, which has been well worked out by Mr Baker. In Derbyshire Mr Baker found the limits of Watson's zones to be as follows :—Infragrarian zone ending at 450 feet, the midagrarian at 1050 feet, and the superagrarian at 1650 feet. I found, however, *Rubus Chamæmorus*, which marks the upper limit of the superagrarian zone, constantly appearing (on Pikethow, Causey Grain, MoodlawLoch, and near Moffat) at a height of 1450 feet; that is to say, 200 feet lower than it usually begins in Derbyshire. This is readily explained by the difference in latitude. In Mr Lees' "Flora of West Yorkshire" the manner in which the zone limits "dip" or diminish in height as one travels north is very clearly brought out. Assuming, then, 200 feet as the difference due to the latitude, we should have 250 feet, 850 feet, and 1450 feet as the limits of Watson's zones in Dumfriesshire. Were this the case, the flora of the lowest region should extend up the Nith to Drumlanrig, up the Annan to the junction of Wamphray water, and as far as Langholm along the Esk. I think, however, that these limits will turn out rather too high. Probably infragrarian plants will not extend so far north as this, though a good portion of the county will still lie in this zone. The limits of the mid and superagrarian zones I could not manage clearly to trace out, but the largest portion of Dumfriesshire is certainly under 850 feet in altitude. There is, however, a very distinct arctic flora which begins about the level of 1450 feet, and so far as I could judge appears with regularity at that height, that is, when soil and rock conditions are favourable.

This arctic flora contains such plants as—*Thalictrum*, *Cochlearia officinalis*, *Cerastium alpinum*, *Rubus chamæmorus*, all the *Saxifrages* except *S. granulata*, *Sedum Rhodiola*, *Epilobium alsinefolium*, *Saussurea alpina*, *Hieracium iricum*, and *argenteum*; *Ajuga pyramidalis*, *Polygonum viviparum*, *Avena alpina Sm.*, *Carex atrata* and *C. capillaris*, *Poa Balfourii*, *Cystopteris fragilis*, &c. Whether, however, the superagrarian flora extends into the ground of this arctic flora or not is a more difficult question to answer. I have found almost all the commoner forms of this (superagrarian) flora by the sides of small streams and in

Digitized by Google

ditches at and in many cases above 1450 feet, *e.g.*, *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*, at a height of nearly 2000 feet at Correifron. The arctic zone, however, if we consider it as marked by presence of *Rubus chamæmorus* and *Cochlearia officinalis*, seems to extend along the watershed of the east and west coast from The Wisp to the Beeftub, and also on the range which ends at Queensberry. The extreme north-west of the county, and especially Beninner and Benbrack, have not so far as I know been thoroughly searched, and this is a point which should be cleared up by our botanists next summer. Whether *Saxifraga nivalis* may be regarded as a proof of the mid-arctic zone occurring in Dumfriesshire is very doubtful, but unless *Veronica saxatilis* and one or two other records are confirmed I should doubt if one could fairly take this to be proved. Thus, in Dumfriesshire, we have apparently at least four and possibly five of Watson's zones represented, and we have also a marked littoral strip and perhaps the best examples of the very special peat-moss flora in Great Britain.

The above sketch is a very superficial one, but my intention has been rather to try and give a general idea of the actual floral divisions of the county than a special account of one locality. I append a list of localities of rare or interesting plants which are not mentioned so far as I know in M'Andrew's work. I include many sent me by our members.

Ranunculus Sardous (Crant) *b. parvulus.*—Auchencass, Moffat Linn.
Nasturtium palustre, R. Br.—(Miss Hamilton) Caerlaverock.
Arabis hirsuta, Br.—Spoon Burn and Correifron.
Cochlearia officinalis, Linn.—Causeway Grain, Whitehope, all Moffat hills, Queensberry, Penbreck.
Viola lutea, Huds.—Penbreck, hills near Grey Mare's Tail, &c.
Cerastium alpinum, L.—Craig boar, also near Loch Skene (Mr Johnstone).
Cerastium arvense, L.—Cluden Bridge.
Stellaria nemorum, L.—Woodlands, Penton Linn, and Canobie parish, abundant.
Sagina nodosa, Meyer.—Torduff Point.
Hypericum hirsutum, L.—Castle-Douglas Road (Mrs Thomson and Miss Milligan).
Geranium phœum, L.—Moniaive (by J. Corrie).
Geranium lucidum, L. (by J. T. Johnstone)—Craigieburn Wood.
Geranium silvaticum, L.—Common; Moffat and Langholm districts up to 1600 feet and beyond.
Empetrum nigrum, L.—Common near Moffat, also Eweslees Downs (J. Rae).
Vicia silvatica, L.—Between Langholm and Canobie.
Ornithopus perpusillus, L.—Dalawoodie.

Digitized by Google

Rubus chamæmorus, L.—Almost always on hills above 1450 feet.
Geum intermedium, Ehr.—Spoon Burn, Moffat, Cluden Bank.
Poterium officinale (Hook).—Meggat Water; abundant.
Saxifraga stellaris, L.—Queensberry, Penbreck, and almost all Moffat hills along right bank of Moffat Water.
Saxifraga granulata, L.—Newton House, abundant; near White Bridge, abundant.
S. hypnoides, L.—Queensberry, Penbreck, all the hills about Moffat, Meikledale, Langholm.
Sedum villosum, L.—White Hope Edge, Eweslees Downs (J. Rae), by Wauchope Water, and Kinnelhead.
Epilobium angustifolium, L.—Lochar Moss.
Epilobium alsinefolium, Vell.—Eweslees Downs (J. Rae), Black's Hope (Rev. E. F. Linton), Loch Skene hills, and Correifron, abundant.
Eryngium maritimum, L.—Rockcliffe (Miss Hannay).
Oenanthe crocata.—Glen Mills, Woodlands.
Galium Mollugo, L.—Near Old Gretna, Prior's Linn, Canobie.
Galium sylvestre, Poll.—Grey Mare's Tail.
Valeriana pyrenaica, L.—Cluden banks near the Mills.
Saussurea alpina, D.C.—Midlaw Burn.
Filago germanica, L.—Cummertrees (Miss Aitken).
Cichorium intybus, L.—Field near Newton House.
Crepis biennis, L.—Tynron (J. Shaw), a new record.
Crepis hieracioides, Waldst.—Grey Mare's Tail, Correifron.
(The Hieracia are in the hands of the Rev. E. F. Linton, who has made numerous new records.)
Pyrola minor, L.—Lochmaben (Miss Black), Canobie (Miss Taylor).
Pyrola secunda, L.—Near Moffat.
Anchusa arvensis, Biele.—Cummertrees (Miss Aikin).
Myosotis silvatica, Ehr.—Near Moffat.
Veronica Buxbumii, Ten.—Woodslee Orchard, Canobie.
Veronica montana, L.—Garple, Beld Craig, Penton Linns.
Orobanche major, L.—Kirkconnell (Miss Witham), Dalawoodie (R. Rimmer), near White Bridge (J. Rutherford), Craigs (Mrs Gilchrist Clark).
Scutellaria minor, L.—Colvend (Mrs Thomson).
Polygonum vivicarum, L.—Above Loch Skene, probably record of Statistical Account, 1843.
Urtica urens, L.—Meggat Water.
Listera ovata, Br.—Common in south of county, Penton, Woodslee, Lochmaben, Isle, &c.
Arum maculatum, L.—Moniaive (J. Corrie), a new record.
Blysmus compressus, Panz.—Moodlaw Loch, a new record.
Cladium mariscus, Br.—Loch Kindar.
Carex atrata, L., *Carex atrata capillaris*, L., *Carex atrata aquatilis*, Wahl.—All found by Rev. E. F. Linton—Midlaw Burn.
Carex lævigata, Sm.—Beld Crag Burn.
Milium effusum, L.—Routen Bridge.
Poa nemoralis, L.—Routen Bridge.

Digitized by Google

5th December, 1890.

Mr James Barbour, V.P., in the Chair.

New Members.—Rev. Alexander Chapman and Dr Patrick Murray.

Donations and Exhibits.—A collection of the rarer plants of Wigtownshire was presented by Mr James M'Andrew for the Herbarium; a stone hammer found at Newfield, near Ecclefechan, was presented by Miss Aitken. Mr James Barbour exhibited a very fine fungus of the genus of the Polyporus; Mr John Corrie, a valentine over 100 years old, belonging to Mrs Harkness of Dalwhat, Moniaive; Mr J. S. Thomson, a bead found in opening a grave at Sweetheart Abbey, supposed to have been part of a rosary.

Herbarium of British Plants.—The Secretary informed the Council that Mr Carruthers, the Curator of the British Museum (Natural History) had offered Mr G. F. Scott Elliot, M.A., the selection of specimens from the Museum, with the view of forming at Dumfries an Herbarium of British Plants. It was agreed to empower Mr Scott Elliot to make such a selection as he deemed desirable, and that he should be requested to form the Herbarium which he proposed.

Communications.

I. *A Pre-Historic Colony at Anwoth.*

By Mr Frederic R. Coles.

The district to which my remarks are limited in the present paper is one so remarkably rich in pre-historic remains that, at first, it seems puzzling where to begin. Its area occupies strictly a good deal less than the five square miles marked out on my enlargement of the Ordnance Survey Map, and the whole of it lies well to the westward of the famous Skyreburn. It is hilly, as you may see from the names and heights of the moorland; the summits of Barholm Hill and Ben John, three miles from the sea, being respectively 1163 and 1000 feet high, while Cairn Harrow, about 1½ miles more inland, touches 1500 feet.

It is well bounded by streams: Cauldside Burn, on the extreme North, falling into the Skyreburn, forming together the largest stream, while Kirkdale Burn runs on the East, and the three

Digitized by Google

smaller streams, Bardristane, Auchinlarie, and Laggan, contribute their share to the features of the hillsides in the midst.

You will see from the map that the Archæological interest of this area is almost confined, concentrated as it were, to the South-middle portion of it. Here, indeed, we find no less than ten separate localities interesting in themselves, and full of value and use to us as clues, possibly, to the solution of those mysterious symbols, "Cup and Ringmarks." Just outside of this smaller area, and to the west of Kirkdale Burn, we find still another, and as far as tradition goes, a specially interesting relic in *Cairnholy*, the cromlech supposed to mark the grave of the first King of Galloway. While about one mile to the North of Cairn Harrow summit, near the Cauldside Burn, are the *Tumuli* and *Stone Circle* before described by me, and of which there is no breath of report or tradition whatsoever.

Leaving for the present these two distant vestiges out of consideration, and beginning close on the very cliffs, we shall first notice *Kirkclaugh Moat*—a notable structure. From the beach of boulders at its base to its summit there are abundant proofs of the strength and guarded importance of this Moat. First, in the lengths of loose masonry lying, now all moss-grown and half hid in luxuriant wild flowers, in confusion, but still evidently once placed in a straight line from the sea landward in a N.E. direction for some five and thirty yards, then the wall takes a sharp turn E. for 22 yards. At this point, being some 16 feet or so above high water mark, it is met by the remains of other walls at right angles, one on each side, from the natural cliff on the one side and the partly built mound of the Moat slope on the other. By this the trench proper is quite evident, and can be traced round to the east of the Moat for a long curve, interrupted once by one of the cross ramparts.

The side of the Moat here is very rocky and very steep. Following the trench we reach the cross rampart at A, which leads us on to the higher and broader one at B, and so to the Moat summit The large irregular flat space on the N. and W. of the Moat proper is evidently artificial, and may correspond in a sense to the Case-court of an English Moat. The dimensions of the Moat are ninety feet by sixty—the longest facet, that running N. and S., being 48 feet. Its slopes measure 36 feet down to the trenches, but on the seaward side this is much steeper and deeper,

Digitized by Google

and ends on perpendicular chasms. A small stream—the Bardristan Burn—runs close along the east side of the rampart, and its natural hollow and bank of course yields one more defence to this very well guarded Moat. The extreme W. edge also of the Case-court has been much strengthened by the embedding of large stones. Its slope down to the boulders on the N.W. cannot be less than 60 or 70 feet.

On the N.E. rampart stands the stone which forms the interesting feature in connection with this Moat—a standing stone sculptured on both sides with crosses, and as the New Statistical Account has it, "with strokes supposed to be Runic.'

It is noteworthy also that in his great work on the "Sculptured Stones," Stuart says that it is likely this stone has been moved from its original position. He gives no authority for this opinion. Only it is odd that the N.S.A. should describe it as being near Boreland Moat when writing of that Moat. Unless there are, or were, two stones 5 feet 3 inches high, and sculptured with crosses on both sides, why should this one be written of in connection with Boreland Moat rather than with Kirkclaugh Moat, where it now stands? And that there may have been two stones is evident from the remark made by a writer unknown, who, in April, 1742, describing Anwoth, says, when speaking of this Moat of K., "and without the ditch on the N. side stands a broad stone erect, about 2 yards above ground, with a cross upon both sides of it, with some carving or inscription below, which I cannot read."

If the stone at present standing on the rampart of Kirkclaugh Moat stood there in 1742—and that is proved by the above writer's words—how comes it that the N.S.A. takes no notice of it when alluding to that moat, but does mention it in connection with the Green Tower Moat at Boreland? Unless we give an unusually wide meaning to the term "near," we are almost compelled to conclude that there were two stones of the same height, and bearing similar sculpturing.

The drawing I submit for your inspection is a minutely accurate copy of one made on the spot with great care; and it shows several peculiarities. First, the simple archaic cross on the south side of the stone has been worked by means of picking—that is, a sharpish flint or bronze tool was held in one hand, and the marks picked or punched out of the surface with the aid

Digitized by Google

of a hammer. This ancient cross is extremely rude, and probably pre-historic; the whole surface near it being thus picked out in precisely the same way as our cup and ringmarks are. It measures 5 feet high by 1 foot across the arms.

On the other—the north side of the stone—is carved another cross of a much more interesting character, and comparatively modern. Its lines are driven with chisel and mallet. Now, in addition to its odd little cup and ringmark near the right hand angle of the central boss, and a single ring above on the left, the peculiar ornamentation on the entire lower surface of the stone is remarkable. I am inclined to think it may be unique. No other stone in Stuart's "Sculptured Stones" has the same simple diamond-shaped pattern running through it. In that work this stone is represented, but not so satisfactorily as it ought to be. Another point in it is the sort of shoulder formed by the deep notch—one on each side—about 6 inches below the arms of the cross.

Referring to the map we now find if we turn north that, at 1210 yards, we come to very near the spot at Bardristan where, last year, a slab was found covered all over with cup and ringmarks. It is a small squarish thin piece of whinstone, about 15 inches across, and sculptured as you see with a considerable variety of these mysterious symbols.

The largest ring measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, the cups about 1 inch. It would have been valuable to know in what position this slab was found, whether quite alone or with other stones, whether sculptured or not; but as it was discovered in the re-making of a drain, all chance of interpreting its position is finally lost. It is now, thanks to the care of Mr Kinna, of Newton-Stewart, kept at Bardristane, where it may be easily seen.

A second space of 1210 yards, this time in an N.E. direction, brings us to the standing stones of High Auchenlarie. These two stones are not now on their original site, having been removed about 28 years ago to the garden of Cardoness. Here, again, we touch the archaic; the lines are so simple, and are again conjoined to cup marks. The single line running outside the main design is also curious. The stones are respectively 5 feet 6 inches and 4 feet 8 inches high, and stood upon a knoll nearly midway between the Bardristane and Auchenlarie Burns. Continuing our ramble, and crossing the

Digitized by Google

Auchenlarie Burn eastward, we come at a quarter of a mile or so to the remains of a stone circle, of which only five stones remain in the circle, the two others being, curiously enough, at points almost equi-distant from the tallest circle stone—one due north, 24 feet off; the other S.S.W., 27 feet off. There was once one other—its exact position I cannot ascertain. It was sculptured copiously with cup and ring marks, and was removed to the garden of Cardoness many years ago. It is well drawn in Simpson's book on Cup and Ring Marks, and bears a strong "specific" resemblance to the Bardristane slab above described.

This stone circle has been 36 feet in diameter, and it is worth notice that its stones are placed at distances which are multiples of its diameter—*i.e.*, six feet between the two prostrate stones. Near the north are 12 feet between the next two, 18 between the next, and 12 feet between the last two. The stones are none of them very large, nor do any of them bear traces of any sculpturing of the simplest sort. But, on the solid rock, about 51 feet S.W. of the tallest stone—the nearest rock surface—I discovered cup and ring marks. Much of the upper part of this slightly sloping rock surface was exposed to the weather, hence the actual sculpturings are not anything like so clear as in my drawing, but they are undoubtedly artificial, as are those lower down on the rock, which were turfed over.

Equi-distant from this stone-circle are two cairns, or rather remains of cairns, one on the N.E., the other on the N.W., each just eleven hundred yards away. The cairn on the N.E. is a somewhat oval-shaped ring of large stones, littered with stones in its enclosure as well as about its circumference. It measures 40 feet by 26 feet, and its longer axis points N.W., Cairn Harrow summit filling in the distant view. Its situation is peculiar, being on a flattish ridge between two steep hill sides, and the ground at either end of it sloping rapidly away—a sort of naturally suggestive position for a monument or burial mound. The distance between the two cairns is a mile and a furlong.

Proceeding from this cairn on Laggan, we reach, at half a mile nearly due south, the Laggan Stone—the most interesting and important of all under the present examination. For here we find a heavy, substantial, roughly pentagonal slab elaborately carved with cups and rings, and placed on the top of a low cairn

Digitized by Google

of loose stones—a mere pile of stones, indeed, not significant enough to have attracted notice, were it not that we find the apex of this stone pointing unmistakably to the Four Standing Stones of Newton on the Shore Fields, a third of a mile away. This is the point *par excellence* that seems to me important and most interesting in our research into the meaning of these strange symbols. If we can be sure, and until I hear on undoubtedly authentic word that this slab was only recently so placed, I shall believe in its position. If, I repeat, we can be sure that this was the original position of the slab, we have gained at least one clear step further towards the elucidation of the mystery of these Petroglyphs; for we have then a proof of their having some bearing on the burial-places and sepulchral customs of the people who erected these standing stones, and poised these sculptured symbols just this way and no other.

The details of this Laggan Stone are these: There are three groups of rings, each with central cup. The group at the apex has 4 rings (diameter of outer ring being 8 inches) and 2 grooves. The middle group has 5 rings, diameter 9 inches. The third group has 4 rings, diameter 8 inches.

The groups are so arranged that a line bisecting the stone from the middle of the lower edge to the apex cuts the centre of the cup in the apex group and touches the east edge of the cup in the lowest group.

The sides of the stone measure, beginning from apex, eastward, 2 feet 1 inch, 10 inches, 1 foot 10 inches, 1 foot, and 1 foot 10 inches. The spaces between the ring-groups are 8 inches and 3 inches respectively. The cups are rather over 1 inch in diameter, and the outer rings are exactly 1 inch across from centre to centre.

Again continuing our progress, this time seawards, we come at another half mile or nearly so, to the huge grave above referred to as the *Standing Stones of Newton*: very often called "The Three Standing Stones," for the simple reason that only three points are visible from the distance.

This sepulchral monument, however, really consists of seven stones visible above ground; first, a long flattish one, measuring 3 feet 10 inches by 1 foot 5 inches, and very thick, apparently the *kist cover*. At either end of it a headstone, 2 feet 1 inch by 1 foot, and a footstone, 3 feet by 1 foot, and

Digitized by Google

four pillar stones set upright at each corner. Of these the stone at the south-east angle has fallen. These stones, the highest of which is 5 feet 10 inches, and the lowest 4 feet 6 inches, are to this day found on the slopes of the Laggan Hill and Ben John in long, sometimes almost squarish, oblongs, of about seven feet, and form a ready material for such usage as here exampled. The lie of the kist cover is nearly due north and south, and the distance between the two end stones is, north and south, 8 feet, and east and west 4 feet.

I had fully intended to open this ancient grave, and so complete the present inquiry by a description of its condition and contents. Inclemency of weather, however, has compelled me to put aside an excavation which might have extended to several days.

I must, therefore, conclude with a summary of what, in my judgment, are the distinguishing features of this Pre-Historic Colony, marking it off from other localities in Galloway.

First noticeable is the variety of character in the relics: cairns, stone circles, kist vaens, and a moat with sculptured stones, and one fragment of sculptured rock. Now, in no other district of equal area do I know of any such variety of character.

The High Banks district, near Kirkcudbright—though it possesses several forts and moats — has only small cairns, and no cup and ring marks on slabs or standing stones, and no out-standing grave such as this at Newton or at Cairnholy.

In other places as, *e.g.*, in the northern parts of the Stewartry and the borders of Ayr and Wigtown, where cairns are pretty frequent, we have as yet little or no trace of sculptured stones, either in cup and ring marks or crosses.

These considerations lend colour to the probability that this Anwoth district once formed an important and comparatively thickly peopled centre—a settlement of some duration —the actual habitations of which have long since passed away, to be remembered only by the cairn and grave and cup-marked stone, as we see them at the present day.

The next characteristic is the differentiation of the types of these remains, and the suggestion that many ages must have played their part in building up such a memorial. It is quite possible that the cairn was the earliest—as it is the most natural —attempt at a constructed tomb. Perhaps the stone-circle followed (for these, as is now pretty generally admitted by

Digitized by Google

competent authorities, are in reality grave-yards), and lastly the grave-stone, with its sculptured cross, the style of which brings it up to a comparatively modern date.

Another point is the relation and bearings of these ancient structures to the natural features of the ground. It cannot be mere chance that every one of them is quite close to a stream. There is abundance of ground less well watered on either side. The moat at Kirkclaugh is washed by a stream; the two standing stones at High Auchenlarie stood between two streams, as also the stone circle close at hand; while on the Laggan Burn, within 400 yards of it, we find the three distinctive remains of Cairn, cup-marked, stone, and grave.

In the same way, too, Cairnholy and its numerous other remains are close on the banks of what is now Kirkdale Burn, and the cairn and circles on the north slopes of Cairn Harrow are also near another running stream—the Cauldside Burn.

Lastly, the measurements of distances both as to large spaces and small seem to me to indicate some system. As I once before pointed out, all the dimensions in detail of the *Tumuli* and *Stone Circle* at Cauldside are in multiples of 9 and 3; and, I think, you will find that the same law holds good with regard to most, if not to all, the dimensions of these other circles, cairns, sculptured stones, and grave at present described. I do not for a moment wish to be misunderstood to the effect that I advocate the building of a merely fanciful theory of numbers in connection with this subject, but rather simply to draw attention to the fact that certain numbers do certainly occur in these dimensions with a frequency that cannot be the result of a happy accident. When there is so little systematic or regular in a subject as yet so slightly worked out, I think a reasonable endeavour to place any clue in the hands of those who are much more competent than the present writer to investigate the whole subject of Petroglyphs is our plain duty as observers. There is still a vast deal to be done—to be observed, drawn, described, and properly recorded in our annals; for as time goes on and steam ploughs become commoner, the very face of the earth undergoes a change which often causes the heart of the Archæologist to sink within him; and, once lost, the very sites of such a colony as I have attempted to picture to-night, fade away into the past and are forgotten.

Digitized by Google

II. *Botanical Notes from Wigtownshire, Kirkcudbrightshire, and Dumfriesshire, December, 1890.*

By James M'Andrew, New-Galloway.

During last July (1890) I again visited Wigtownshire for the purpose of studying its flora. I spent a week with the Rev. James Gorrie, F.C. Manse, Sorbie; and as the result of our work in and around that parish, we added the following plants as new records for Wigtownshire. In Capenoch Moss, north-west of Whauphill Station, we gathered 1, *Drosera intermedia;* 2, *Lycopodium selaginoides;* 3, *Scirpus fluitans;* 4, *Carex Œderi*, Ehrh; and 5, a *Utricularia*, which Mr Arthur Bennett thinks may be *Bremii*. But for a true determination the plant must be gathered in flower. In the neighbourhood of Sorbie village we found 6, *Erophila vulgaris (Draba verna);* 7, *Habenaria bifolia;* and 8, *Ranunculus bulbosus*. At Dowalton Loch we gathered 9, *Lycopodium selago;* 10, *Utricularia vulgaris;* 11, *Nitella opaca;* 12, *Polypodium dryopteris;* and we saw growing at Stonehouse the following ferns, which had been taken from the same loch:—13, *Cystopteris fragilis;* 14, *Polypodium phegopteris;* 15, *Polystichum lobatum;* and 16, *Polystichum aculeatum*. At Ravenstone, or White Loch, we got 17, *Radiola millegrana*. In addition to the above, Mr Gorrie has found 18, *Saxifraga granulata* in the grounds of Galloway House, and 19, *Hyoscyanus niger*, in Rigg Bay, south of Garliestown.

The most interesting botanical ground Mr Gorrie and I visited was Dowalton Loch, which, about twenty-five years ago, was drained for agricultural purposes, thus exposing to view several lacustrine dwellings, and the remains of a large canoe. Owing to the very wet summer this year, botanizing this drained loch, except along its margin, was out of the question, but from what we observed I have no doubt it would amply repay a careful search. It has several interesting ferns along its margin. Here we gathered *Ophioglossum vulgatum, Cryptogramme crispa, Sagina nodosa, Ranunculus sceleratus, Filago Germanica, &c.*

I next visited Drummore, a pleasant and clean village near the south of the Rhinns, with the intention of confirming, as far as possible, some of the records of the rare plants found in the neighbourhood of the Mull of Galloway. Here for three weeks

Digitized by Google

I was fortunately assisted by Messrs R. Hogg and W. Paterson, from Kilmarnock. Botanizing along the top of the heughs is dangerous work, but along the Mull head and further north on the west coast we confirmed the existence of *Euphorbia Portlandica*, *Crithmum maritimum*, *Statice binervosa*, vars. *occidentalis* and *intermedia*, not growing like the common *Statice*, on sand and mud flats, but on the tops and the sides of the cliffs. *Inula crithmoides*, *Scirpus Savii* (common), *Mertensia maritima*, *Astragalus hypoglottis*, very plentiful on the west coast; and *Oxytropis uralensis* in several places. I failed to find the following plants once recorded from that district:—*Atriplex portulacoides*, *Apium graveolens*, *Brassica monensis*, *Malaxis paludosa*, and *Ononis reclinata*. Concerning the last-mentioned plant, of which the only British station is on the farm of Cardrain, north of the Mull of Galloway, I may state that it has not been seen there for many years, though it has been repeatedly and carefully looked for. The farmer was unable to say where the plant grew. Frequent landslips may account for its disappearance. It was discovered here in 1835 by Professor Graham, who found it on *debris* at the foot of the cliffs.

In continuation of the list of new records, I add the following from the neighbourhood of Drummore:—20, *Polygala vulgaris*, var. *oxyptera*, on a bank facing the sea at Drummore (this var. has been found in Scotland before only near Stirling); 21, *Chara contraria*, on the west coast, north of Mull of Galloway; 22, *Sagina maritima*, var. *densa*, at the south end of West Tarbert; 23, *Bromus asper*, Grennan wood and south of Maryport; 24, *Bromus arvensis*, south of Drummore Quay; 25, *Listera cordata*, in Shanks Moor and East Tarbert; 26, *Erythræa centaurium*, var. *pseudo latifolia*, var. *capitata* (Koch), on the west coast in abundance; 27, *Cerastium semidecandrum*, south of Drummore; 28, *Trifolium striatum*, south of Drummore in abundance; 29, *Vicia lathyroides*, south of Drummore, in fields; 30, *Mentha aquatica*, var. *sub-glabra*, Ardwell Mill Dam; 31, *Bidens tripartita*, Ardwell Mill Dam; 32, *Geranium pratense*, High Drummore; 33 *Spergularia salina*, var. *media*, Port Logan Quay.

In addition to the above new records, I may include the following new Brambles and Roses, gathered in Wigtownshire in 1889 by Mr Charles Bailey, Manchester:—*Rubus rhamnifolius*, *Rubus umbrosus*, and *Rubus Sprengelii*. The last was gathered

Digitized by Google

near Newton-Stewart, and is the first record of this Bramble for Scotland. Also *Rosa subcristata*, *R. mollis*, and R. *sub-globosa*.

Some other interesting plants around Drummore may be mentioned: *Orchis pyramidalis*, at Killiness Point, and *Vicia lutea*, at the north end of New England Bay, still keep their ground. South of Drummore, along the shore, may be gathered *Senebiera coronopus*, *Potentilla reptans*, *Cerastium tetrandrum*, *Sagina apetala*, *Sagina maritima*, *Filago minima*, *Filago germanica*, *Trifolium arvense*, *Lycopsis arvensis*, *Calystegia soldanella*, *Glaucium luteum*, *Eryngium maritimum*, *Medicago lupulina*, *Vicia hirsuta*; great abundance of *Raphanus maritima*, *Ammophila arundinacea*, and *Festuca sciuroides*. On the shore of Grennan wood *Vicia sylvatica* grows in plenty; and in the wood itself grow many plants, notably large patches of *Anagallis tenella*. At Port Logan I found *Spergularia rupestris*, and further south *Thymus chamœdrys* and *Empetrum nigrum*. At Clanyard Bay grow *Carlina vulgaris*, *Agrimonia eupatoria*, and *Juniperus communis*. At Portencorkrie Bay I gathered *Ligusticum scoticum*, *Convolvulus arvense*, *Carex vulpina*, *Carex paludosa*, *Aster tripolium*, and *Scirpus maritimus*. On the Mull Head were gathered *Geranium sanguineum*, *Œnanthe lachenalii*, *Parnassia palustris*, *Radiola millegrana*, *Lycopodium selaginoides*. Around Drummore are *Lavatera arborea*, but planted, *Conium maculatum*, *Carduus tenuiflorus*, *Urtica urens*, *Lamium intermedium*, *Ornithopus perpusillus*, *Habenaria viridis*, *Malva sylvestris*, *Veronica scutellata*, *Alisma*, *ranunculoides*, and *Hypericum elodes*. At Ardwell Mill Dam were *Lysimachia nummularia*, *Senecio saracenicus*, *Littorella lacustris*; and on the shore about Sandhead, *Equisetum maximum*, and *Cakile maritima*.

Doubtful plants have been named by Mr Bennett, Croydon.

Kirkcudbrightshire.

This year I have found *Juncus tenuis* in another station on the roadside near Shiel, and *Thalictrum flavum*, var. *sphærocarpum*, Lej., in Kenmure Holms, New-Galloway. Mr Charles Bailey, of Manchester, in 1889, gathered the following Brambles and Roses, chiefly in the neighbourhood of Gatehouse and Borgue:—*Rubus fissus*, *R. Koehleri*, *R. hirtus*, *R. umbrosus*, Bab., *R. affinis*, Bab., all in Borgue; and *R. Sprengelii*, opposite Newton-Stewart. The following Roses he gathered chiefly on the hill on which the

Digitized by Google

Rutherford monument stands :— *Rosa spherica*, Grev., *R. tomentosa*, Sm., *R. subcristata*, Baker, *R. Watsoni*, Baker, *R. rubiginosa*, L.

Among Mosses I have found *Hypnum cæspitosum*, and *Didymodon flexifolius*, and the rare Hepatic *Harpanthus flotovianus*.

Dumfriesshire.

Mr John T. Johnstone has found *Potentilla alpestris* on Blackhope, near Moffat. This is a very interesting addition to the Flora of Dumfriesshire. He also mentions his finding *Peucedanum ostruthium*, and *Pyrola secunda* near Beld Craig. The Rev. E. F. Linton also records *Rosa Hibernica* from the Grey Mare's Tail.

List of Lichens gathered in Dumfriesshire, Kirkcudbrightshire, &c.

By Mr JAMES M'ANDREW, New-Galloway.

The following list of Lichens is only a contribution towards the Lichenology of the South-Western Counties of Scotland. Most of them have been gathered by myself in the Glenkens. Those recorded from Rerrick were gathered by the Rev. George M'Conachie, Manse of Rerrick. Doubtful species have been referred to Dr Guillaume Nylander, Paris; Dr James Stirton, Glasgow; Rev. James M. Crombie, London; and Mr Joseph A. Martindale, Kendal. Dr Stirton has made several new species of Usneæ and Cladoniæ from specimens I have sent him, chiefly from the Glenkens. The list contains very few of the minuter species, because they are so difficult of determination. N.G. refers to New-Galloway. The arrangement follows Leighton's "Lichen Flora of Great Britain, Ireland, and Channel Islands."

Ephebe pubescens, Fr. —Kells hills.
Lichina pygmœa, Ag.—Portpatrick ; Cruggleton, Wigtownshire.
,, *confinis*, Ag.—Maritime rocks.
Synalissa intricata, Nyl.—North of Black Craig and Rig of Craig Gibbert, N.G.
(Note.—This is as yet the only British record of this Lichen.)
Collema nigrescens, L.—Grennan Bank, Fintloch wood, &c., N.G.
,, *conglomeratum*, Hoffm.—Dumfriesshire (Dr Burgess in Leighton's "Lichen-Flora.")
Leptogium musicola, Sw.—Frequent in Glenkens.
,, *tremelloides*, L.—Dunskey Glen, Portpatrick.

Digitized by Google

Burgessii, Light.—Holme Glen; Knocksheen Glen; Hannahstown Bridge (in fruit), N.G.; Duff Kinnel, near Barntimpen, parish of Kirkpatrick; and in Mollin Linn Wood, Parish of Johnstone, Dumfriesshire (Dr Burgess in "Lichen-Flora.")

,, *lacerum*, Ach.—Sub Alpine glens; Grey Mare's Tail (Dr W. Nichol).

,, ,, var, *fimbriatum*.—Coal Heugh, Twynholm; Tongland.

,, *sinuatum*, Huds.—Holm Glen, &c., N.G.

,, *tenuissimum*, Dicks.—Glenlee, and Holme, N.G.

Sphinctrina turbinata, Pers.—On *Pertusaria communis*.

Calicium melanophœum, Ach.—Glenlee Glen, N.G., on firs.

,, *hyperellum*, Ach.—Glenlee, N.G., on oaks.

,, *quercinum*, Pers.—Grennan Bank, and Hagwood, N.G.

,, *trachelinum*, Ach.—Ballingear Wood, on firs, N.G.

,, *curtum*, Borr.—Hannahstown Wood, N.G.

,, *citrinum*, Leight.—On *Lecidea lucida*.

Coniocybe furfuracea, Ach.—Ballingear Glen, Holme Glen, &c., N.G.

Sphœrophoron compressum, Ach.—Bennan Hill, Black Craig, &c.

,, *coralloides*, Pers.—Burnfoot Hill, &c., N.G.

,, *fragile*, Pers.—Cairn Edward, and Black Craig, &c.

Bœomyces rufus, D.C.—Common.

,, *roseus*, Pres.—Knocknarling Burn, Grennan Bank, &c., N.G.

,, *placophyllus*, Pers.—Kinervie Moor, Parton; Darsalloch, &c., rare.

,, *icmadophilus*, Ehrh.—Frequent on the hills.

Pycnothelia papillaria, Duf.—Kinervie Moor, Parton; 2¾ miles west of N.G.

The Glenkens district is very rich in Cladoniæ, especially at the north end of the Bennan Hill. Dr Stirton has made several new species of Cladoniæ from the district.

Cladonia alcicornis, Lightf.—Twynholm Hills (Fred. R. Coles, Esq.)

,, *pyxidata*, L.—Common.

,, ,, f. *epiphylla*, Ach.—Knocknalling.

,, ,, f. *megaphylla*.

,, ,, var. *pocillum*, Ach.—Fintloch, N.G.

,, ,, var. *chlorophœa*, Flk.—Townpark, &c., N.G.

,, ,, var. ,, f. *myriocarpa*, Coëm.—East of River Dee, in Kelton parish.

,, *leptophylla*, Ach.—Airie Hill, N.G.; Kinervie Moor, Parton.

(Note.—This is the first Scottish record for this Cladonia. It is in plenty.)

Cladonia pityrea, Flk.—Frequent.

,, ,, f. *hololepis*, Flk.

,, ,, f. *elongata*, Coëm.—Black Craig,

,, *acuminata*, Ach.—Kinervie Moor, Parton, &c.

,, *Lamarckii*, Del.—Grennan Bank, and Ballingear Glen, N.G.

Digitized by Google

Cladonia fimbriata, L.—Common
,, ,, var. *adspersa.*
,, ,, var. *costata*, Flk.
,, ,, var. ,, f. *prolifera.*
,, ,, var. *conista*, Ach.—Fintloch Wood, N.G.
,, *fibula*, Ach. f. *subcornuta*, Nyl.—Frequent,
,, ,, var. *radiata.*—Frequent.
,, *gracilis*, L = *chordalis*, Flk.—Common.
,, ,, var. *aspera*, Flk.
,, *ochrochlora*, Flk.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *phyllosticta.*—Ardoch Wood, Dalry.
,, *verticillata*, Hoffm.—Frequent on the hills.
,, *cervicornis*, Ach.—Very common.
,, ,, var. *firma.*—Burnfoot Hill.
,, *degenerans*, Flk.—Bennan Hill; Barend Moss.
,, *sobolifera*, Del.—Earlston Wood, Dalry; Bennan Hill.
,, *furcata*, Hoffm = *subulata*, L.—Common.
,, ,, f. *exilis*, Mudd.—Cairn Edward Hill.
,, ,, var. *corymbosa* Ach.—Bennan Hill, &c.
,, ,, var. *racemosa*, Hoffm.—Frequent.
,, ,, var. ,, f. *recurva*, Hoffm.
,, *pungens*, Ach.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *foliosa*, Flk. = *nivea*, Ach.—Earlston Wood.
,, *squamosa*, Hoffm.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *vetusta.*
,, ,, f. *rigida (furfurosa, Strn).*—Bennan Hill.
,, ,, f. *ventricosa*, Ach.—Ballingear Wood.
,, ,, f. *cucullata*, Del.—Black Craig; River Ken, at Glenhoul.
,, ,, f. *frondosa*, Del.—Ballingear Glen, N.G.
,, ,, f. *asperella*, Flk.—Ballingear Wood.
,, *subsquamosa*, Nyl.—Black Craig, Bennan Hill, Ballingear Glen.
,, ,, f. *tumida*, Cromb.
,, *cæspititia*, Pers.—Blackbank Wood, Glenlee, &c., N.G.
,, *delicata*, Ehrh.—Townpark, Holme Glen, Backwood, N.G.
,, *coccifera*, L. = *cornucopioides*, Fr.—Bennan Hill, &c.
,, *bellidiflora*, Ach.—Bennan Hill; Black Craig.
,, *digitata*, L.—Frequent.
,, *macilenta*, Ehrh.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *phyllophera.*—Burnfoot Hill.
,, ,, var. *polydactyla*, Flk.—Frequent.
,, ,, var. *carcata*, Ach.—Bennan Hill.
,, *bacillaris*, Ach.—Black Craig, &c.
,, ,, f. *pityropoda*, Nyl.—Moss Raploch, N.G.
,, *Floërkeana*, Fr.—Black Craig.
,, ,, *trachypoda*, Nyl.
Cladina rangiferina, L.—Frequent.
,, *sylvatica*, Hoffm.—Common.

Digitized by Google

Cladina sylvatica, var. *tenuis*.—Up the River Ken.
,, ,, var. ,, f. *laxiuscula*.—Up the River Ken.
,, ,, f. *arbuscula*.—Barend Moss.
,, ,, f. *portentosa*, Duf.—Barend Moss.
,, *uncialis*, L.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *adunca*, Ach.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *turgida*.—Moffat, &c.
,, *districta*, Nyl.—Bennan Hill.

Also the following new forms of *Cladonia subsquamosa* have been named by Dr Stirton in "The Scottish Naturalist"—*Cladonia spilota*, Dundeugh; *C. dilatata*, *C. cristata*, *C. sublactea*, *C. furfurosa*, Bennan Hill; *C. deflexa*, Bennan Hill; *C. phyllina*, Dundeugh; *C. compressula*, *C. spicata*. Also, *Cl. furcata*,* *Cl. dispansa*, Bennan Hill; *Cl. ciliata*, *Cl. difissa*. *Cl. arborea*, Lochar Moss; *Cl. contexta*, Bennan Hill; *Cl. commixta*.

Pilophoron fibula, Tuck.—Black Craig, &c.
Stereocaulon coralloides, Fr.—Frequent. Caerlaverock Wood. (Dr Lauder Lindsay in "Leighton's Lichen-Flora.")
,, *evolutum*.—Black Craig.
,, *paschale*, Ach.—Frequent. Caerlaverock Wood.
,, *denudatum*, Flk.—Black Craig.
,, ,, f. *pulvinatum*.—Black Craig.
,, var. *cereolinum*, Ach. *(pileatum)*.—Frequent on wet rocks.
Usnea barbata, Fr.
,, ,, f. *florida*, Fr.—Common.
,, ,, f. *hirta*, Fr.—Common.
,, ,, f. *dasypoga*, Fr.—Rare. Troquhain Woods.
,, ,, f. *plicata*, Fr.—Barntimpen Linn, parish of Kirkpatrick, Dumfriesshire. (Dr Burgess in Leighton's "Lichen-Flora.")
,, ,, f. *ceratina*, Schœr.—Common.
,, ,, ,, f. *scabrosa*.—Occasionally.
Evernia furfuracea, Mann.—Marchwell, N.G.; Glenlaggan, Parton, &c.
,, *prunastri*, L.—Very common on trees.
Alectoria bicolar, Ehrh.—Earlston Wood, Dalry; Kells Hills.
,, *jubata*, Ach.—Frequent. Moffat.
,, *lanata*, L.—Black Craig, Cairn Edward, N.G.
Ramalina scopulorum, Ach.—Maritime rocks.
,, *polymorpha*, Ach.—Maritime rocks.
,, *calicaris*, Fr.—Common.
,, ,, var. a, *subampliata*, Nyl.—Fintloch, &c., N.G.
,, ,, var. b, *subfastigiata*, Nyl.—Fintloch, &c., N.G.
,, *farinacea*, L.—Fintloch, &c., N.G.—Common.
,, *fraxinea*, L.—Fintloch, &c., N.G.—Common.
,, ,, f. *tæniæformis*, Ach.—Common.
,, ,, f. *ampliata*, Ach.—Frequent.
,, *fastigiata*, Pers.—Common.

Digitized by Google

Ramalina pollinaria, Ach.—Shirmers, Balmaclellan; South Park, near Kirkcudbright.

,, *evernioides*, Nyl.—Kirkmaiden Churchyard, south of Port-William, Wigtownshire.

,, *cuspidata*, Ach.—Maritime rocks.

Cetraria islandica, L.—Milyea; Corserine; Carline's Cairn; Cairnsmuir of Carsphairn; Beninner, &c.; Hartfell, Moffat. (Dr W. Nichol, in "Leighton's Lichen-Flora.")

,, *aculeata*, Fr.—Common.

,, ,, f. *muricata*, Ach.—Troquhain, &c.

,, ,, f. *acanthella*, Ach.—Burnfoot Hill, Cairn Edward, &c., N.G.

Platysma triste, Web.—Kells Hills.

,, *sæpincola*, Ehrh, var. *ulophylla*, Ach.—Frequent.

,, *commixtum*, Nyl.—Black Craig, N.G., rare.

,, *glaucum*, L.—Very common.

,, ,, f. *sorediosa*.—Marchwell, N.G.

,, ,, f. *fallax*, Web.—Occasionally.

Nephromium lævigatum, Ach, var. *parile*, Ach.—On rocks north of Ballingear, Holme Glen, N.G., rare.

,, *lusitanicum*, Schœr.—Frequent.

Peltigera aphthosa, L.—Waterside Hill, Glenhoul, Ballingear Burn, &c., N.G.

,, *canina*. L.—Common.

,, ,, f. *membranacea*, Ach.—Occasionally.

,, ,, f. *crispa*, Whlnb.—Occasionally.

,, *rufescens*, Hoffm.—Ballingear Wood, Fintloch Wood, &c., N.G.

,, *polydactyla*, Hoffm.—Common.

,, *scutata*, Dicks.—Frequent. Raehills. (Sir W. Jardine and Dr Greville in "Lichen-Flora.")

,, *horizontalis*, L.—Frequent.

,, *venosa*, L.—Glenkill Burn and Linn, Dumfriesshire. (Dr Burgess in "Lichen-Flora.")

Stictina intricata, Del., var. *Thouarsii*.—Garroch Wood, N.G.; Blackwater Burn, Dalry; Waulkmill, N.G.

,, *limbata*, Sm.—Frequent.

,, *fuliginosa*, Dicks.—Garroch Wood, N.G.; near Dumfries, in fruit. (Dr Richardson in "Lichen-Flora.")

,, *sylvatica*, L.—Frequent. Drumlanrig Wood. (Mr W. Stevens in "Lichen-Flora.")

,, *Dufourei*, Del.—On River Dee, Tongland.

,, *scrobiculata*, Scop.—Frequent, Glenlee Glen, &c.

Sticta pulmonacea, Ach.—Common. Beld Craig, Moffat. (Dr W. Nichol, in "Lichen-Flora.")

Ricasolia amplissima, Scop.—Kenmure Woods, Glenlee Glen, &c, N.G.

,, *læte-virens*, Lightf.—Ballingear Glen, Holme Glen, &c., N.G.; Drumlanrig Woods. (Mr W. Stevens in "Lichen-Flora.")

Digitized by Google

Parmelia caperata, L.—Frequent. Colvend.
,, *olivacea*, L., var. *exasperata*, Ach.—Kenmure Holms, N.G.
,, ,, var. *prolixa*, Ach.—Black Craig, Cairn Edward.
,, *physodes*, L.—Very common.
,, ,, var. *recurva*, Leight.—Common.
,, ,, var. *labrosa*, Ach. = f. *tubulosa*.—Frequent.
,, ,, var. *platyphylla*, Ach.—Burnfoot Hill, N.G.
,, *cetrarioides*, Del.—Townpark, Glenlee Glen, N.G.
,, *perlata*, L.—Common. Caerlaverock Road, Dumfries. (Dr Lindsay in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, ,, f. *sorediata*.—Little Kenmure, N G.
,, ,, var. *ciliata*, DC.—Frequent.
,, ,, ,, f. *excrescens*.—Waterside Hill, Glenlee Mains, Burnfoot, N.G
,, *pertusa* (Schrank).—Burnfoot Hill, Ballingear Wood, Gairloch, N.G.; south of Rockcliffe.
,, *tiliacea*, var. *scortea*, Ach.—Overton, Craigenbay, &c., N.G.; about Ernespie, Castle-Douglas; Rerrick Manse, &c.; near Whithorn; Caerlaverock. (Dr Lindsay in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, *Borreri*, Turn.—Common.
,, *reddenda*, Strn.—North of Fintloch plantation, N.G.; Bellymack, Laurieston; Tongland.
,, *fuliginosa*, Dub.—Common.
,, ,, var. *læte-virens*.—Common.
,, *conspersa*, Ehrh.—Common. Moffat.
,, ,, *stenophylla*, Ach.—Frequent.
,, ,, *isidiata*, Anzi.—Frequent. Caerlaverock.
,, ,, f. *Mougeotii*, Schær.—Frequent.
,, *sinuosa*, Sm.—Dumfriesshire. (Dr Burgess in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, *saxatilis*, L.—Very common.
,, ,, var. *sulcata*, Tayl.—Frequent. Burnfoot, Fintloch, N.G.
,, ,, var. *furfuracea*, Schœr.—Glenlee, Kenmure, &c., N G.
,, ,, var. *omphalodes*, L.—Kells Hill. Common.
,, ,, var. *panniformis*, Ach —Frequent. Kells Hill.
,, *lævigata*, Sm.—Ballingear Glen, Taanach, Burnfoot Hill, Kenmure, Backwood, &c., N.G.
(Note.—There are two forms of this Parmelia, one larger than the other.)
,, *lævigata*, var. *revoluta*, Flk.—Very common.
,, *incurva*, Pers.—Cairn Edward, Gairloch, Black Craig, N.G.
,, *subaurifera*, Nyl.—Frequent.
Physcia parietina, L.—Common.
,, *pulverulenta*, Schreb.—Common.
,, ,, f. *angustata*, Hoffm.—Occasionally.
,, ,, f. *venusta*, Ach.—Occasionally.
,, *obscura*, Ehrh.—Not common.

Digitized by Google

Physcia obscura, f. *lithotea*, Ach.—Ken Bridge, N.G.
,, ,, f. *ulothrix*, Ach.—Holme, Fintloch plantation, N.G.
,, *speciosa*, Wulf.—West of Cairn Edward, rare.
,, *tribacia*.—Colvend.
,, *stellaris*, L.—Common.
,, ,, var. *tenella (Borrera tenella)*.—Frequent.
,, *cæsia*, Hoffm.—On house slates. Common.
,, *cæsitia*.—Shirmers, Balmaclellan.
,, *aquila*, Ach.—Maritime rocks.
Umbilicaria pustulata, Hoffm.—Grennan, Dalry; between Cairn Edward and Bennan hills.
,, *polyphylla*, L.—Bennan Hill, &c.
,, ,, f. *congregata*, T. and B.—Occasionally.
,, ,, f. *monophylla*, T. and B.—Frequent.
,, *flocculosa*, Wulf (*deusta*, Fries).—Cairn Edward, &c.
,, *erosa*, Web.—Frequent on Kells hills.
,, *polyrrhiza*, L. (*pellita*).—Frequent.
,, *proboscidea*, Ach.—Between Garrorie and Backhill of Garrorie, N.G., rare.
,, *cylindrica*, L.—Frequent.
,, ,, f. *exasperata*, T. and B.—Milyea.
Psoroma hypnorum, Vahl.—Beld Craig, Moffat. (Dr W Nichol in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, ,, var. *deaurata*, Ach.—Troquhain hills.
Pannaria rubiginosa, Thunb.—Frequent. In fruit at Loch Dilly, near Ken Bridge; Drumlanrig Wood. (Mr W. Stevens in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, ,, var. *cæruleo-badia*, Schœr.—Frequent on trees
,, *pezizoides*, Web.—Ballingear Glen, Holme Glen, &c., N.G.
,, ,, var. *coronata*, Ach.—Holme House dykes, Glenlee, Marchwell, N.G.; Dumfriesshire. (Dr Burgess in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, *triptophylla*, Ach.—North of Kenmure Castle, Ballingear Glen, &c., N.G.
,, *carnosa*, Dicks.—Grennan Bank, Townpark, &c., N.G.
,, *plumbea*, f. Light—Kenmure Woods, Glenlee Glen, N.G.; Drumlanrig Wood and Barntimpen Linn. (Dr Burgess in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, ,, f. *myriocarpa*, Del.—Kenmure Wood, N.G.
Amphiloma lanuginosum, Ach.—Black Craig, Bankend rocks, &c., N.G.
Squamaria saxicola, Poll.—Frequent.
,, *gelida*, L.—Loch Dungeon, &c., N.G.
Placodium dissidens.—Frequent. Viewfield, Kells School, &c., N.G.
,, *tegulare*.—Frequent.—Viewfield, Kells School, &c., N.G.
,, *citrinum*, Ach.—Dundrennan Abbey.
Lecanora vitellina, Ach.—Frequent on walls, rocks, pailings, &c.
,, *squamulosa*, Schrad.—Frequent on dykes, &c.
,, ,, f. *smaragdula*, Whlnb.—Kerrick, &c.

Digitized by Google

Lecanora fuscata, Schrad.—Rerrick.
,, *tartarea*, L.—Common on rocks, &c.
,, ,, f. *grandinosa*, Ach.—Frequent on trees. Ballingear Glen, &c.
,, *subtartarea*, Nyl.—Garroch Wood, N.G.
,, *parella*, L.—Very common on dykes, &c.
,, *symmicta*, Ach.—Holme.
,, *atra*, Huds.—Frequent. Rerrick.
,, *cinerea*, L.—Frequent. Rerrick.
,, *polytropa*, Ehrh.—Moors of Dumfriesshire. (Dr Burgess in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, *lutescens*.—On fir and larch, at Holme, &c.
,, *sulphurea*, Hoffm.—Dundrennan Abbey.
,, *subfusca*, L.—Very common.
,, ,, f. *parisiensis*, Nyl.—Overton, N.G.
,, ,, f. *intumescens* (Rebent).—Hannahstown Wood, &c., N.G.
,, ,, f. *coilocarpa*, Ach.—Rocks at Kenmure.
,, ,, f. *gangalea*, Ach.—Rocks at Kenmure.
,, ,, f. *chlarona*, Ach.—Common.
,, ,, f. *geographica*.—Occasionally.
,, *galactina*, Ach.—Rerrick.
,, *umbrina*, Ehrh.—Rerrick.
,, *badia*, Ach.—Common on dykes, &c.
,, *glaucoma*, Hoffm.—On dykes.
,, *aurantiaca*, Lightf., var. *erythrella*, Ach.—Rerrick.
,, ,, var. *inalpina*, Ach.—Rerrick.
,, ,, var. *rubescens*, Schœr—Rerrick.
,, *ferruginea*, Huds.—Rerrick.
,, *cœsio-rufa*, Ach., Nyl.—N.G.
,, *pyracea*, Ach.—Holme, Balmaclellan.
,, *ventosa*, L.—Frequent on boulders on the hills.
Urceolaria scruposa, L.—On rocks, and the under side of stones in dykes—Frequent.
Pertusaria communis, DC.—Very common on trees.
,, *fallax*, Pers. *(Wulfenii)*.—Very common on trees.
Thelotrema lepadinum, Ach.—Ballingear Glen, Holme Glen, N.G.
Lecidea atro-rufa, Dicks.—Black Craig.
,, *lucida*, Ach.—Under side of stones in dykes.
,, *decolorans*, Flk.—On earth on the hills.
,, *quernea*, Dicks.—Caerlaverock. (Dr Lindsay in "Lichen-Flora."
,, *sanguinaria*, L.—Frequent. Burnfoot Hill, &c., N.G.
,, *enteroleuca*, Ach.—Dundrennan, &c.
,, *parasema*, Ach.—Common.
,, ,, var. *elœochroma*, Ach.—N.G.
,, *polycarpa*, Flk.—Ben-y-Guinea, &c., N.G.
,, *lithophila*, Ach.—Burnfoot Hill, Cairn Edward, &c.
,, *rivulosa*, Ach.—Burnfoot Hill, Cairn Edward, &c.

Digitized by Google

Lecidea fusco-atra, Ach., f. *fumosa*, Ach.—Common.
,, *contigua*, Fr.—Very common on rocks on the hills.
,, ,, f. *flavicunda*, Ach.—Moffat, &c.
,, *albo-cærulescens*, Wulf.—Up the River Ken at Dundeugh.
,, *canescens*, Dicks.—Dundrennan Abbey, &c
,, *badio-atra*, Flk.—Cairn Edward, N.G.
,, *colludens*, Nyl.—Rerrick.
,, *lutea*, Dicks.—Ballingear Wood, N.G.
,, *Lightfootii*, Sm.—Frequent about N.G.; Caerlaverock Road. (Dr Lindsay in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, *biformigera*, Leight.—Colvend.
,, *pulverea*, Borr.—Woods about N.G.
,, *Œderi*, Ach.—Rerrick.
,, *abietina*, Ach., var. *incrustans*.—North of Black Craig, N.G.
,, *sphæroides*, Smrf.—Ballingear Glen, Holme Glen, &c.
,, *citrinella*, Ach.—Burnfoot Hill, N.G.
,, *geographica*, L.—Very common; as on Black Craig.
,, ,, var. *atro-virens*, L.—Ben-y-Guinea, &c.
,, ,, f. *contigua*.—Frequent.
,, *petræa*, Wulf.—Moffat.
,, *concentrica*. Dav.—Rerrick.
,, *parmeliarum*, Smrf.—Common on *Parmelia saxatilis* Caerlaverock. (Dr Lindsay in "Lichen Flora.")
,, *parasitica*, Flk.—Common on *Lecanora parella*.
Lithographa Andrewii, Strn.—Burnfoot Hill, N.G.
Graphis elegans, Sm.—Not common.
,, *scripta*, Ach.—Common in its various forms.
,, ,, f. *divaricata*, Leight.—Rammerscales, Dumfriesshire. (Mr Thompson in "Lichen-Flora.")
,, ,, var. *pulverulenta*, Ach.—Frequent.
,, *sophistica*, Nyl., f. *divaricata*, Leight.—Raehills Wood, Dumfriesshire. (Dr Greville in "Lichen-Flora.")
Opegrapha saxicola, Ach.—Fallbogue Bay, Twynholm.
,, *varia*, Pers., var. *notha*, Ach.—Kenmure Castle, Holme House, N.G.
Arthonia astroidea, Ach.—North of Kenmure Castle, &c., N.G.
Normandina lœte-virens, T. and B.—On earthy banks on the hills.
Endocarpon miniatum, L.—Ken Bridge; Rerrick shore; Eggerness, Wigtownshire.
,, ,, var. *complicatum*, Sm.—Along with the type.
,, *fluviatile*, DC.—River Ken, Shirmers Burn, &c.
Verrucaria nitida, Weig.—Frequent. Holme Glen, &c.
,, *gemmifera*, Tayl.—On *Lecidea contigua*.

Digitized by Google

Folk-lore of Glencairn. By Mr John Corrie.

At the present day it is a matter of no little difficulty to realise the solicitude with which the fathers and mothers of a past generation must have watched over their offspring during the tender years of infancy. The hour, the day of the week, the month, and even the year of birth were all supposed to exercise an important influence upon the future fortune and character of the child; while witch and warlock, fay and fairy, had each the power, under certain limitations, of bestowing upon young and especially upon unbaptised children their unhallowed attentions. Starting with the initial step in life, we find a very prevalent belief to the effect that a child born with a "caul"—a thin membrane occasionally found covering the head at birth—is sure to be attended by good fortune in after life. In some districts of the country this "caul," or "holy hood," is supposed to indicate that the child will never be drowned, but in inland Glencairn this part of the belief has failed to perpetuate itself. A child, on the other hand, born with teeth is doomed to misfortune or early death, evils which the mother usually does her best to counteract by having the offending incisors pulled as soon as possible. Among other prevalent notions associated with infancy may be mentioned the belief that specks on the finger nails are prophetic of coming fortune, a belief by no means confined to Scotland, for the poet Crabbe, in his poem of "The Village," says:

> "In moles and specks we Fortune's gifts discern,
> And Fate's fixed will from Nature's wanderings learn."

Infant feet have their superstitions as well as infant hands, and when the two toes next the great toe lie close together it is looked upon as a sign of riches. Again, a child should go up in the world before it goes down, otherwise it will never rise to distinction in life. Weighing a child was long supposed to have an injurious effect upon its prospects in life, but of late years this belief has been set at open defiance. It was at one time customary throughout the south of Scotland—and we believe the practice is to some extent observed still—to hold a tea-drinking on the birth of a child, when all who wished the child well were expected to taste of the "blyth-meat," as it was called. A similar custom, we are told, prevails throughout the northern and midland counties of England, where "birth-feasts" have long been popular owing to

Digitized by Google

the opportunities they afford for social enjoyment and amusement. We pass over various other beliefs associated with birth and infancy that we may deal more fully with the important subject of baptism. In Scotland children are still often baptised as early as the second or third week after birth, a haste which is doubtless due, in some measure, to a lingering superstition, for baptism has long been looked upon as the only sufficient safeguard against the influence of the evil eye, or the powers of the ill-disposed fairies; and its performance has in consequence ever been delayed as little as possible. Burns mentions among the "unco's" seen by his hero "Tam o' Shanter," on the night of his eventful ride, "Twa span-lang wee unchristened bairns," whose presence in such unhallowed company was of course due to the circumstance that the potent rite of baptism had been neglected. It was deemed of the utmost importance that the person who carried the child to church on the occasion of the christening should be known to be lucky. Prior to setting out, a small pocket of salt was put in the child's bosom, or attached to some part of the dress, to keep witches away; and if a call was made the mistress of the house was expected to give the child a lick of sugar for luck. Once arrived at church, should there be a boy and a girl to present at the same diet, great care had to be taken to have the boy christened first, else he would grow up effeminate, while the girl would have the boy's beard, a contingency which may have helped to reconcile the gentler sex to a sacrifice of that precedence which we, on all other occasions, concede as their due.

Subsequent to baptism we find a number of curious beliefs. Thus, it is considered most unlucky to let a child see itself in the mirror until all its teeth have been cut. It is also unlucky to cut a child's finger nails or to cut a child's hair, for in the former case you teach the child to steal, while in the latter there is a danger of hair growing over the child's whole body. Another curious belief is that if the cradle be rocked while empty, it will cause its baby owner to have a sore head. Satanic or elfish influences, inimical to the child, were repelled by the use of the three oils—a mystic preparation with which the forehead was bathed as occasion might require.

Coming to speak of marriage we notice first of all the various modes of love-divination. In Scotland "All Hallow's Eve" is, of course, the popular festival for practising this form of super-

Digitized by Google

stition, and the devices resorted to by love-sick swains and languishing maidens desirous of ascertaining their lot in the marriage state are almost bewildering in their variety. We content ourselves with noticing a few of the more important. A rite rarely neglected at this propitious season was the dipping of the sark sleeve in water where three laird's lands met. The garment was then taken home and hung over the back of a chair to dry, due care being exercised to place it in such a position that the maiden could have it constantly under view during the night; for should marriage be her lot in life the husband she was to get would enter the apartment and turn the garment. A story still lingers in the district of a much-respected doctor's wife who successfully practised the rite when a young and unasked maiden. She had retired to rest at the usual hour, but was too anxious as to the result of her experiment to sleep. Close upon the stroke of twelve a man she had never seen before silently entered the room, turned the "sark," and then, as if to leave some tangible proof of his visit, deliberately stuck a pen-knife through the sleeve of the garment. The man she saw on that Hallowe'en night was the man she afterwards married, and to her dying day she possessed an unwavering faith in the genuineness of the visit.

We may mention in this connection a peculiar practice long common in the district on the 1st of May. Some time during the day, maidens curious in matters matrimonial pulled nine stalks of yarrow "to dream on." These were placed beneath the pillow for three successive nights, and if the spell succeeded, the maiden's future husband either appeared in person or had his name mysteriously announced to her in a dream. Tibby B——told me that long before she saw her man she dreamed about him on the yarrow, and saw him as plain as she ever saw him in after life. "I was lying in the turnip field," she said, "when he came to me and said, 'My lass, ye'd better gie me ye're hoe an' I'll help ye a bit.' I answered, quite careless like, 'Ye may hae't'; sae he took it, and after workin' a bit and talkin' a bit he left me, an' it was in that very way and wi' thae words on his lips Rab C—— courted me for his wife."

Another popular method of love-divination was to pare a turnip round and round without breaking, and then to hang the long spiral peeling over the doorway; the name of the first person who afterwards entered being supposed to correspond with that of the

Digitized by Google

future partner in life. Those again who were curious as to the number of their future family only required to pull a stalk of corn out of a corn rick and see how many ears adhered thereto. Whatever the number—two, four, or eight—the family would be accordingly. Even such trivialities as the coming husband's age and the particular colour of his hair could be ascertained by those who cared to undertake the appropriate rites. But we have said enough to show the importance that was attached to these divinations, and we must now glance at the numerous superstitions connected with the all-important marriage ceremony itself.

Immediately the "banns" had been proclaimed—and it may be remarked in passing that it was considered most unlucky for anyone to hear their own banns proclaimed—the bride became an object of interest to the whole of her unmarried male or female acquaintances, for a charm was supposed to reside in her person which rendered it specially lucky for them to rub shoulders with her. It is still customary in Glencairn for the bride and bridegroom to sally forth perhaps a week before the date fixed for the wedding, and deliver their invitations in person. Sometimes as many as a hundred invitations will be given in this way, and although all may not attend the ceremony there are few who do not acknowledge the invitation by sending a present to the bride.

The state of the weather on the wedding day was, of course, a subject of paramount interest. Sunshine seems to have been looked upon with most favour, but as an off set to this we have the adage, "Sap bodes luck," a considerate concession to those upon whom the sun refused to shed his beams of blessing. It was considered lucky for a bride to change some minor article of wearing apparel before going to get married, but the marriage gown once donned had on no account to be stripped until the ceremony was over. Perhaps the most important custom in the eyes of the guests at a rural wedding was the "running for the broose," a race in which the young men of the bridegroom's party competed for the bride's handkerchief. Originally the prize to the winner seems to have been a dish of brose, hence the name of the race; but of recent years it has become customary to substitute a handkerchief or a bottle of whisky as the trophy of victory. The contest sometimes took place on foot, sometimes on horseback. In Burns's day horseback racing must have been the rule, for

Digitized by Google

when the auld farmer makes his "New Year morning salutation to his mare Maggie," he says :

> When thou was corn't, and I was mellow,
> We took the road aye like a swallow,
> At broozes thou had ne'er a fellow
> For pith and speed ;
> But every tail thou pay't them hollow,
> Where'er thou gae'd.

At my grandfather's marriage, which was attended by a hundred people all mounted, the racing was also on horseback, for landlord Smith, of the old Oak Inn, fell from his horse and was nearly killed, much to the distress of my grandparents, who interpreted his mishap as an omen of misfortune to themselves. It was long customary in Glencairn, and we believe the custom prevailed in other districts of the country, for an elder sister to dance in her stocking soles at the marriage of a younger one. We have also a belief that a sister acting as bridesmaid on three separate occasions, thereby sacrifices her own chances of marriage. With the groomsman or "best man" superstition has been less exacting, and, so long as he gives a liberal "ba'" to the children, he may officiate as often as he chooses. The marriage ceremony over, and the rice or old shoes thrown after the newly-married pair for "luck," it might be expected that now, at all events, there would be an end to superstition ; but this was by no means the case. The entrance into the new home was quite as much beset with ordinance as the leaving of the old one, and the "young folks" had no sooner arrived at their destination than the new-made wife was presented with a pair of tongs, as symbolical of her duties, while over the heads of husband and wife, as they entered, bread and cheese were broken in token of welcome and blessing. It was an established belief that salt should be taken into a new house before "kennelin," that is, fire, and down to a recent date this practice was religiously observed throughout, at least, the south of Scotland. Burns, we are told, countenanced the rite when he took up house at Ellisland, more, we suppose, from sympathy with national custom than from belief in its virtues.

Close upon the marriage came "the kirkin'," an important ceremony, which usually took place on the first Sabbath after the nuptials. Neither the best man's nor the bridesmaid's duties were supposed to be complete until this ceremony had been per-

Digitized by Google

formed, and in rural districts even yet a selected party of those who have been assisting at the marriage festivities accompany the bride and bridegroom to church.

The solemn and mysterious nature of death renders it a peculiarly fit subject for superstition, and in no other event of life has it shown the same vitality. Death warnings are not now, perhaps, generally believed in, but there are still those who cannot hear the howling of a dog or the ticking of a death watch without a certain feeling of trepidation. When we remember the numberless other portents of approaching dissolution believed in by our forefathers, we cannot help commiserating them in the many discomforts to which they must have been subjected by an over-credulous faith.

Among local portents a mysterious light known as "the licht before death" holds an important place, and instances are frequent in which the light has not only been seen, but has proved itself a faithful forerunner. The following, extracted from our gleanings, may serve to illustrate the belief. An old Glencairn lady on looking out of her door one dark night saw a strange light shining in the vicinity of a house where an acquaintance lived. Entering the house she commented on what she had seen, and expressed the hope that "it wisna the deid licht." Her fears were ridiculed; but next morning it transpired that a member of the family, over whose dwelling the light was seen, had committed suicide.

We have another illustration, and perhaps a more valuable one, on account of its precision. Peggy D—— when going to lock her door one night saw a light go past, carried, as she supposed, by a neighbour. There was nothing unusual in this, but there was a high stone dyke with a flight of steps in it, close to the foot of the garden, and she was surprised to see the light and supposed light-bearer pass right through the obstructing fence as if nothing of the kind had been there. Then, again, although the ground below the house was very uneven, the light itself was never lost sight of for a moment. Peggy, rooted to the spot, watched the light go down through the fields, then along the public road until the churchyard was reached, when turning in that direction it passed through the locked gate with the same apparent ease that the other obstacles had been surmounted, and, entering the graveyard, became lost to sight among the tombstones. A week

Digitized by Google

later Peggy D——'s daughter was carried a corpse to the same churchyard.

The howling of a dog as a death-warning has already been referred to. It is one of the oldest as well as one of the most prevalent of superstitions. "C. W. J.," writing in Chambers's "Book of Days," suggests that there may be some truth in the notion, as a peculiar odour frequently precedes death, which may render the dog uneasy. No one acquainted with the dog's acute powers of scent will be disposed to call this an extravagant suggestion. Another widespread belief is that the genius of death announces his coming by means of some mysterious and supernatural noise. Thus, a knock on the door, or on the floor of a room, or in the vicinity of a sick person's bed, is sure to be looked upon as "a call." We have heard of one family to whom the warning came in the form of a sound resembling the smack of a switch against the window-pane. This sound was heard three times in succession, and immediately after the third repetition an ailing member died. A native of the neighbouring parish of Tynron informs me that to hear a cock crow six times before six o'clock is a sign of a death. The magpie is another bird of evil omen, and its chattering near a dwelling is supposed to foretell the decease of one of the inmates. The raven and the owl are even more unpopular than the magpie. Spencer speaks of "The ill-fac'd owle, death's dreadful messenger;" while the raven is invariably associated by our old Scottish balladists with scenes of death and dolour.

In addition to these general portents of death, we have death warnings peculiar to certain families of rank. Thus the death of a member of the Craigdarroch family is supposed to be heralded by a sudden and simultaneous peal of household bells, while to a member of the Closeburn family the warning comes in the form of a white swan. The late Dr Ramage says that this omen saddened the nuptials of Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, the first baronet, when marrying for the third time.

In Glencairn there formerly existed a curious belief that the soul flew out of the mouth of the dying in the form of a bird. A story still lingers in the district of a joiner's apprentice who made this belief the subject of a somewhat ill-timed practical joke. An old man had died in the village, and the joiner and his apprentice were busy preparing the coffin. Just as it was finished a sparrow

Digitized by Google

happened to visit the workshop, and the apprentice, unnoticed by his master, pounced upon the bird and slipped it into the coffin. Shortly afterwards master and apprentice carried the coffin to its destination. No sooner had the lid been unscrewed than the sparrow took to flight, to the evident discomposure of the assembled friends, who looked upon the bird as the disembodied soul of the deceased.

Very different were the manifestations associated in the popular mind with the death of the wicked. Our local annals supply us with at least one example in which exaggeration has been carried to the verge of the ridiculous. We refer to the stories told in connection with the death of the notorious prosecutor Lag. Thus it is said that shortly before he died he was actually experiencing on earth a foretaste of the penalties that had been prepared for him in the world to come. So terrible was the agony he endured that he prayed for bucketfuls of water to be thrown over him to cool the burning heat of his body, a heat which must have been terrible indeed, for we are told that when he spat on the floor his spittal "frizzed" for several seconds on the spot where it fell, and left thereon an indelible impress. Even death did not terminate these unwonted manifestations, for a black dog and a raven were seen to accompany the funeral cortege all the way to the grave, while the four horses which were engaged in the unhallowed work of taking him thither all shortly afterwards perished in the same mysterious fashion. I have myself conversed with a woman who heard a sound as of chains rattling, and saw long spectral shadows flit fitfully past as she stood by the "nettle neuk" where the hated prosecutor lay.

Happily, death is not always, or even frequently, accompanied by cantrips of this kind, and it is almost with a sense of relief we turn to the more ordinary associations of this the most solemn period in man's chequered history. When a person died it was a common practice to stop the clock, and to cover the mirror with a cloth, while on the breast of the dead a vessel of salt was placed as a protection against evil influences. Napier suggests that this latter custom had its origin in the rites of the "sin eaters," who, having placed a plate of salt and one of bread on the breast of the corpse, repeated a series of incantations and afterwards devoured the contents of the plates, by which means the deceased person was supposed to be relieved of such sins as would have

Digitized by Google

kept his spirit hovering about his relatives to their discomfort and annoyance. A funeral is still an occasion of some ceremony in Scotland, but in the days of our forefathers it possessed all the importance of a festival; "a dry funeral" being considered unlucky. Not only ale and porter, but whisky and rum, port wine and sherry were provided in quantity and in quality corresponding with the social standing of the deceased. To such an extent indeed was drinking sometimes carried that there are instances on record of the procession reaching the graveyard without the corpse, the coffin having been left by drunken inadvertence at some stage in the way. Once the grave has been filled in over the dead, it is still customary for the relatives and friends to return to the after funeral feast, where intoxicants are rarely altogether absent.

Notes on the Flora of the Moffat District.

By Mr J. Thorburn Johnstone.

The Moffat district, from its geographical position and natural surroundings, has a flora of an interesting and unique character for a lowland district, being unusually rich in Alpine and sub-Alpine forms, which find a fitting habitat among the wild, bare, rocky crags and bleak ravines of Blackshope, Corrieferron, Loch Skene, Midlaw Burn, &c. It also forms the connecting link between the floras of the Cumberland and Westmoreland highlands in England on the one hand, and that of Perth and Forfar in Scotland on the other, and this even though our hills are not the highest in the South of Scotland, yet an examination of the Society's list of plants shows that the Moffat hills are a safe retreat and a sure one for a larger number of the rarer plants than these higher hills. Notwithstanding the richness of our flora, the literature regarding it is of a very limited and meagre description, and with the exception of some isolated references in some of the Botanical Societies' transactions and the "Statistical Account of Scotland for 1843," it may be said to be the work of one individual, a native of the district—viz., the late Mr John Sadler, curator of the Edinburgh Botanic Gardens. As far back as 1857 and 1858 Mr Sadler gave the result of his botanical researches in the district in the columns of the *Moffat Register*, the local newspaper at that time, and he likewise published about

Digitized by Google

that time a small book entitled "Ramble among the Wild Flowers"—this being a pleasantly-written narrative of a three days' botanical tour from Edinburgh and back by way of Peebles, Manor Water, St. Mary's Loch, Grey Mare's Tail, Loch Skene, Corrieferron, Moffat, Deil's Beef Tub, and Tweedsmuir. At the end of the book he gives a list of plants to be found in the neighbourhood of Moffat. This list was copied into the Moffat Guide-book at that time as a section on the botany of the district, and has been continued in it without any alteration till two years ago, when a new and more extensive list, compiled by myself, was substituted. In the original list Mr Sadler enumerates nearly 150 flowering plants, 28 ferns, clubmosses, and horsetails, besides a number of mosses. This list, while it is a small one numerically, shows that Mr Sadler had been very familiar with the plants of the district, and had botanised it thoroughly, for the list contains the names of nearly all the rare plants found now in the district and a few which still elude re-discovery; but every season is seeing the number of these being gradually reduced. At the present time these unreconfirmed plants of the Moffat flora are represented by the following list:—*Cardamine impatiens*, L.; *Genista Anglica*, L.; *Vicia Orobus*, D.C.; *Epilobium Alpinum*, L.; *Scutellaria Galericulata*, L.; *Salix Lapponum*, L.; *S. Myrsinites*, L.; *Juncus Trifidus*, L.; *Carex Rupestris*, L., on Sadler's authority. While *Lychnis Viscaria*, L.; *Alchemilla Alpina*, L.; *Saxifraga Aizoides*, L.; *Veronica Saxatilis*, L; *Tofieldia Palustris*, Huds.; *Juncus Triglumis*, L.; and *Juncus Castenus*, Sm., are on the authority of the "Statistical Account of Scotland for 1843." This list for the "Statistical Account" was prepared by the Rev. Dr Singer, minister of Kirkpatrick-Juxta at that time. *Saxifraga Aizoides* has been found since that time by the Rev. Wm. Bennet, Moffat, but a good many years ago, and I have failed to find it at the place where Mr Bennet told me he had gathered it. *Andromeda Polifolia*, L., has the Rev. John Pagan, Bothwell, for its authority.

I have no doubt that the majority of these plants are still in the district. Why they have not been rediscovered is simply the want of searchers for them. Since Mr Sadler's time no systematic attempt has ever been made to botanise the district, and even the casual visits of botanists to the district have been very few, and their operations have never been extended to where these

Digitized by Google

plants were likely to be found. That this is so can easily be understood when I mention that since the formation of a Naturalists' Field Club (now extinct) in Moffat in May, 1886, which gave an impetus to the pursuit of botany here, the stations for 55 plants given in the Society list on the authority of Mr Sadler and the "Statistical Account of Scotland" have either been reconfirmed or new ones given for them. While stations have been found here for about 40 plants (omitting those marked common and general) which have no station given in the Society's list for this district, and at least 10 new plants have been added as new records for the county.

These results show that there is no necessity for excluding the majority of the unreconfirmed plants from the list, as some of your members have ere now suggested. Those members ought at least to make a personal effort to verify their presence or otherwise first; and having done this and failed, it will be time enough then to consider the expediency of expunging them from the list. A few notes on some of the most interesting of the reconfirmed plants may not be amiss, and for easy reference I will follow the sequence of the Society's list. *Aquilegia vulgaris*, L., still retains its ancient habitat at Garple, while a new station has been found for it in a small rivulet on the Granton Hill. *Cerastium Alpinum*, L., Blackshope and rocks at Loch Skene. *Vicia sylvatica*, L., is still to be found at the Grey Mare's Tail, but it is now rather scarce. *Saxifraga oppositifolia*, L., has one station only, but it is fairly abundant at it. *Epilobium angustifolium* is also found at Blackshope and Corehead; while *E. alsinefolium Villars* is also common in Blackshope, Corrieferron, and Grey Mare's Tail. *Galium pusillum*, which appears in the Society list on Mr Sadler's authority, is common at the Grey Mare's Tail, Corrieferron, &c. This plant will require to have its name changed to *Galium sylvestre*, Poll. Messrs E. F. and W. R. Linton, in a paper which appeared in the *Journal of Botany* last June, gave *Galium sylvestre*, Poll., Grey Mare's Tail, as a new record for the County of Dumfries. I drew Mr E. F. Linton's attention to the *Galium pusillum* in the Society's list, and asked him if it was not the same plant as *sylvestre*. His reply was that *G. sylvestre*, Poll., was formerly known to Don and Smith as *G. pusillum* by an error, but it was not the *G. pusillum*, Linn., which was not a British plant; and he had no doubt Sadler must

Digitized by Google

have meant the same plant as he did. *Saussaurea Alpina*, D.C., has at least three stations in the district, one of them being in Blackshope. *Hieracium pallidum* I gathered two years ago at Craigmichen Scaurs, and *Hieracium Iricum*, Fr., Blackshope, Grey Mare's Tail, &c., was gathered by the Messrs Linton last summer as it had formerly been by Mr J. Backhouse (see monograph). The *Pyrolas media*, Swartz, and minor, L., are fairly common in our linns. While I know only one station for the rare *Pyrola secunda*, L., which I gathered in flower at the end of June this year for the first time, at a new station between 8 and 9 miles distant from any of its previous recorded stations, at which places it is not now to be found. *Myosotis cæspitosa*, Schultz, common in all the springy places on the hills and damp roadsides. *Stachys betonica*, Benth., I only gathered on September 7th for the first time, also at a new station. There would be less than a dozen plants of it growing at this place, and it is not now found at its previous recorded stations. *Polygonum viviparum*, L., rocks at Loch Skene, where it was gathered by Mr Scott-Elliot in the month of July this summer. *Oxyria reniformus*, Hook, one of the commonest plants in Blackshope, Corrieferron, Grey Mare's Tail. I note that in the Society list this plant is favoured with four different authorities; while this plant, along with *polygonum viviparum*, are claimed as new records for Dumfries in 1888. (See proceedings of the Botanical Society for 1888; notes on the records of Scottish plants for 1888, by A. Bennet, Esq.) *Carex Atrata*, L., and *Carex Capillaris*, L.—these rare Carices were re-discovered by Mr Linton near Loch Skene in July this year. I observed *Atrata* at the same place in September, but *Capillaris* had seemingly died down, as I did not see it. *Carex Rigida*, very common on the very top of Hartfell. Of plants found here which have no station given in the Society list from here are such plants as:—*Fumaria Capreolata* and *F. Officinalis*, corn fields and waste ground; *Corydalis claviculata*, D.C., common in woods; *Silene inflata*, Sm., railway embankment and at Hunterheck; *Lychnis Vespertina*, railway embankment; *Sagina nodosa*, Meyer, Craigmichen Scaurs.—*Geranium Lucidum*, L., found growing on rocks at the Deil's Beef Tub—the specimens gathered there are very small; it also occurs on the Selkirk roadside, nearly 3½ miles from Moffat. *Ulex Gallii*, Planche, sandbed, Annan Water, Nethermill ground, and Com

Digitized by Google

monside. *Poterium officinale*, Hook, Annan Water at Barnhill. *Rosa spinosissima*, Linn., occurs in Corrieferron at an elevation of 1250 feet. *Rosa Mollissima*, Wild, Adam's Holm. *Carduus heterophyllus*, L., common on Evan Water. *Hieracium crocatum*, Fries., Spoon Burn. *Senecio sylvaticus*, L., is very common in this district, while *Senecio viscosus*, which is marked very rare in the Society list, occurs on the railway sidings and waste ground about Beattock Station. *Calamintha Clinopodium*, Benth., Moffat Water and Grey Mare's Tail. *Lamium album*, *L.*, occurs round the ruins of the Old Chapel at the farm of that name, and is the only station for it here that I know of; it is quite plentiful there, but it does not seem to spread away from its original habitat. *Juncus supinus*, Moench., rare in the Society list, occurs in the ditches above Moffat mineral well. *Carex aquatilis*, var. minor Boot., Corrieferron. *Carex ampulaceæ*, Good, Well Hill.

Of plants which are new records for the county, and plants which do not appear in the Society list, but which have been found in other parts of the county, and which have also been gathered here, occur the following:—*Corydalis lutea*, D.C., Annan Water at Beerholm; *Teesdalia nudicaulis*, R.Br., sandbeds on Evan Water and Annan Water on Holms and Beerholm ground; *Sagina procumbens*, var. *Spinosa*, Gibs., roadside near Deil's Beef Tub—new record for county, August 4th, 1889; *Rubus Idæus*, var. *Leessii*, Bab—this was discovered here for the first time by Mr Craig-Christie, Edinburgh, in July, 1887; *Rubus Koehleri*, *Weihe*, var. *pallidus*, Bab., copse, Moffat Water—Messrs Linton in *Journal of Botany* last June; *R. Lindleianus*, Moffat Water, Messrs Linton, 1890; *Potentilla Alpestris*, Hals-fils, gathered June 22nd, 1890, by myself at Blackshope, and now recorded for the first time for the county—another station has been found for it here since then, at Midlaw Burn; *Potentilla procumbens*, Sibth, roadside, New Edinburgh Road; *Rosa Canina*, var. *lutetiana*, Leman, Adam's Holme; *Saxifraga nivalis*, Linn., July 31st, 1889, at Blackshope, only station, and will not number over a dozen plants, growing in the shady recesses of a damp rock. Among the *Heiracia* a number of new finds have been recorded. *Heiracium Auratum*, Fr., Moffat Water; *H. Sparsifolium*, Lindeb, Craigmichen Scaurs—these two are not new to the county, as, I believe, they had been previously gathered in

Digitized by Google

the Sanquhar district by Dr Davidson; while in the *Journal of Botany* for June last year the Messrs Linton record *Heiracuim Argenteum*, Fr., and *H. Prenanthoides*, Vill., for the Grey Mare's Tail. The Messrs Linton spent four days at Moffat again this summer botanising among the *Heiracia* principally. I accompanied them to Craigmichen Scaurs and Blackshope, and Mr Scott-Elliot, who was staying at Moffat at that time, also accompanied us one day to Spoon Burn and Corrieferron. During this visit a number of what I believe will turn out to be new *Heiracia* for Great Britain were gathered, but in a note I had lately from Mr E. F. Linton, he says it will be some time before they are able to publish the results of their visit, as a number of them require to be sent to Dr Lindaberg at Stockholm for examination. *Ajuga pyramidalis*, L., Blackshope, June 17th, 1888, a new record for the county at that date, and is the only station and very few plants. Among the willows also a few additions can be made to the Society's list. *Salix alba*, L., var. *Vitellina*, L., Hydropathic grounds, where it has been planted; *Salix triandra*, L. var., Annan Water at Putts; *Salix Cinera* X. *nigricans*, Gudeshaw Wood; *Salix phylicifolia*, L., Beerholm; *S. nigricans*, Sm., Blackshope; and *S. Ambigua*, Ehsh, Annan Water at Putts. Where I have given no name as the authority for a plant it has been gathered by myself. In the grasses I have nothing new or rare to record, simply because I have not gone in for collecting the carices and grasses; and I must express my indebtedness to Mr E. F. Linton for examining and naming the plants of these two orders I have already by me, and also for naming the *Hieracia* and *Salix*. And as the *genera rubus* and *rosa* are also practically untouched, these, along with the grasses, &c., will take a lot of working up in the future for any one who has got leisure or interest in the matter; indeed, the whole district can stand a lot of botanising yet. And in concluding I may state that the number of plants now on the list I have made up for this district is 446 flowering plants and 41 ferns and varieties of ferns, equisetums and club-mosses, all of which, with the exception of less than 20, have been reconfirmed for the district within the last three years. In fact, specimens of the greater number of them can be seen in my own collection.

Digitized by Google

9th January, 1891.

Mr JAMES BARBOUR, V.P., in the Chair.

New Members.—Mr Andrew Noel Agnew, Mr James H. Barbour, Dr Hugh Cunningham, Mr Joseph Duff, Mr Kevin Emmet O'Duffy, Mr Robert Threshie Reid, M.P.

Donations.—Seven botannical papers by Mr Arthur Bennett, F.L.S., of Croydon, Honorary Member; The Essex Naturalist, October and December, 1890; Stirling Natural History and Archæological Society's report for 1889-90. On behalf of Mr David Matheson, Superintendent of the Savings Bank Department of the Canadian Post Office, Mr Lennox presented a pamphlet by the Rev. Dr Duncan, published in 1815, containing the rules and Regulations of the Dumfries Parish Bank.

COMMUNICATIONS.

I. *Observations on the Meteorology of Dumfries for 1890.*

By the Rev. WILLIAM ANDSON.

Barometer.—The highest reading of the barometer was recorded on the 23d February, when it rose to 30·724 inches, the highest reading for five years, with the exception of 5th December, 1889, when it was 30·725 in. The lowest reading was on the 6th November, a day of extraordinary rain and storm, when it fell to 28·600 in., the lowest reading since 3d November, 1887, when 28·537 in. were registered. Between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. of the 6th there was a fall of the mercury to the extent of fully an inch, from 29·637 in. to 28·600 in., and the rainfall was the heaviest recorded for the five years that observations have been taken at this station. The annual barometrical range was 2·124 in., and the mean pressure (reduced to 32 deg. and sea level) was 29·899 in., which is slightly under average. There were four months in which the mean pressure exceeded 30 inches—viz., February, September, October, and December, and these were exceptionally dry and quiet months, during which anti-cyclonic conditions for the most part prevailed, with their usual accompaniments of light winds and rainfall under average. The months in which the fluctuations of the barometer were greatest, with stormy and unsettled weather, were January, March, and November.

Digitized by Google

Temperature.—As regards the temperature, the year has been somewhat peculiar. For example, the highest single reading of the thermometer was not in June, July, or August, as is usually the case, but on the 23d May, when it was 75·2 degs., the next highest being 74·5 degs. on the 7th August, and 74 degs., on the 7th September. The proper summer months of June and July were unusually deficient in sunshine and warmth, with a remarkable prevalence of rainy days, numbering 22 in each, and the inevitable result of low temperature for the season of the year. The mean maximum or day temperature of June was 7 degs. below average, and that of July 4 degs. In the former month the thermometer never reached 70 degs., and in the latter only thrice, the highest reading being 71·5; whereas in the latter part of May there were also three very warm days, with a maximum range from 70·5 to 75·2 degs.; in August, seven, ranging from 70 to 74·5 degs.; and in September, seven, ranging from 70·1 to 74 degs. The highest mean temperature occurred in the month of September—viz., 58·3 degs., as compared with 55·6 degs. in June, 56·5 degs. in August, and 57 degs. in July. As regards the winter months, January was exceptionally mild and open, with a marked prevalence of southerly and south-westerly winds, and a mean temperature of 41·9 degs., being about 4 degs. above average. The mean temperature of February was 37·9 degs., nearly 2 degs. below average, but almost the same as in 1889. The coldest month of the year was December, with a mean temperature of only 33·5 degs. In this month there were seven days on which the maximum readings were under the freezing point, and as low as 27·2 degs. on the 13th; while there were nineteen nights of frost with an aggregate of 95 degs. The lowest temperature of the year was recorded on the night of the 13th or morning of the 14th December, when the sheltered thermometer registered 19 degs., and an exposed thermometer on the grass registered 11·5 degs. In the end of October there was a spell of severe cold, the sheltered thermometer falling as low as 23·7 degs. on the 28th; and the same thing occurred in the end of November, from the 26th to the 29th, the readings ranging from 28·5 degs. to 23·3 degs., but otherwise the temperature of these months was above average. With our recollections of the wet and inclement weather of the summer months, and the persistent frost of December, it might have been supposed that the

Digitized by Google

mean temperature of the year, taken as a whole, would have been decidedly under average, but these backward influences were so far compensated by the mildness of January and March, and the unusual warmth which characterised the end of May and the whole of September, along with a considerable part of October, that the annual mean (47·8 degs.) is higher than that of the previous four years, with the exception of 1889, when it was 48·1 degs. In 1888 it was 46·5 degs.; in 1887, 47·2 degs.; and in 1886, 46·2 degs. A comparison of the mean annual maxima and minima of 1889 and 1890 shows that the higher mean temperature of the former year was due to an excess in the day temperatures—for while the annual minimum is the same for each year —viz., 40·9 degs., the annual maximum is for 1889, 55·1 degs.; and for 1890, only 54·4 degs. Over Scotland generally there seems to have been a slight excess of warmth over the average; but in England, especially in its southern and south-eastern districts, there appears from the reports that have been issued to have been a deficiency.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall of the year was 35·72 inches, as compared with 35·17 inches in 1889, 35·91 inches in 1888, 30·99 inches in 1887, and 40·13 inches in 1886. The heaviest in 24 hours was on 6th November, when the gauge registered 2·17 inches. The rainiest months were January and November—the former with a record of 5·32 inches, which fell in 25 days, and the latter of 6·93 inches, spread over 22 days. June and July were also remarkable for the number of days in which rain fell—22 in each; but the amount was not much in excess of what is usual in these months, at least as far as July is concerned. Both months were characterised by cloudy skies and frequent showers, with consequent low temperature; but there were few heavy downpours of rain, such as frequently occur in the summer months. The driest months were February and December, with a record of less than one inch for each—February 0·86 in., December 0·97 in. It is worthy of remark that the whole rainfall of these two months—viz., 1·83 inches—was less than the amount which fell on the single day in November before referred to, when 2·17 inches were recorded. The total number of days in the year on which rain fell was 208, as compared with 202 in 1889, 195 in 1888, and 181 in 1887. There was a remarkable absence of snowfall during the year. Only once or twice was

Digitized by Google

there a slight covering on the lower grounds, though on several occasions in January and March and in the end of October and November snow fell on the hills. In other parts of the country, however, and particularly in the northern and eastern districts and over England, snowstorms of considerable severity were experienced, both in March and April and in November and December.

Hygrometer.—The mean of the dry bulb thermometer for the year was 46·9 degs.; mean wet, 44·7 degs.; dew point, 42·3 degs.; relative humidity (saturation = 100), 84. The thermometer readings are a fraction lower than in 1889, and the difference 2·2 degs. instead of 2·4 degs. The relative humidity is 2 per cent. greater—84 instead of 82.

There were no very severe thunderstorms in 1890, but thunder was heard, accompanied with lightning in most instances, but not in all, on the following dates:—January 5th and 18th, May 6th and 18th, June 27th and 29th (thunder only), July 2d (thunder only), 4th and 15th (thunder with lightning), August 29th, September 20th, and November 10th (thunder with lightning).

Wind.—The prevailing directions of the wind during the year were as follows:—From an easterly direction, including E., N.E., and S.E., it blew 96 times; from a westerly direction, including W., S.W., and N.W., it blew 208 times; from due N., 22 times; from due S., 24 times; and calm or variable, 15 times.

II. *The Remnants of an Ancient Language.*

By Mr Patrick Dudgeon.

O.N., Old Norse; A.S., Anglo-Saxon; O.Sw., Old Swedish; Yk., Yorkshire; Sc., Scotch; Fr., French. There is much interest in following up to its source a language now only existing in a very mutilated state, but which was at one time current over a considerable portion of England and part of Scotland. The few notes now presented refer to our "Scottish vernacular," and its close connection to the dialect spoken over a great part of Yorkshire. The term dialect must be used with some reservation in speaking of the "Folk speech" of Yorkshire and the south of Scotland, for it is really the remains of the language of the ancient Northumbrian kingdom. Though now almost expiring, and being every day less and less used even by the country

Digitized by Google

people, and being constantly "contaminated," by influences of various kinds, a great deal of it remains, as may be seen by the diligent searcher, in words, idioms, and forms of thought, that is well deserving of attention. We in Scotland owe a deep debt of gratitude to such writers as Burns, Scott, and many others, whose immortal writings will for ages keep alive amongst us many of the words and idiomatic turns of language current in the old Northumbrian kingdom. In this respect, Yorkshire has not been so fortunate; there appear to be no great authors from that district, such as I have mentioned we have, whose writings in the vernacular are at all likely to be perpetuated. Our country, too, has been more prolific in ballads and songs than any other part of the kingdom, containing abundant remains of the old language, which can never be lost; and so, although the *spoken* language, the remains of the Old Northumbrian tongue, which was in almost general use in the time of our grand and great-grandfathers, is a thing nearly of the past, and is fast disappearing even amongst the country folks, yet our ballads, songs, Burns, Scott, and the works of many other Scottish authors will for ever keep it alive as a *written* language. The ancient kingdom of Northumbria, at one time the greatest and most powerful of the kingdoms into which the country was divided, extended from the Humber to the Forth. The Teutonic races, Engles, Saxons, and others, who invaded the country after the Roman evacuation utterly annihilated or drove the remnants of the inhabitants into the most inaccessible parts of the land, and founded the kingdom of Northumbria, which existed for more than 300 years. The Danes and Norsemen, other branches of the Teutonic race, in their turn occupied the country until subdued by the Norman conquest. The Normans, however, made little or no impression on the language of the northern parts of the country. At various times the kingdom was extended in sundry directions, or, at all events, they exercised supremacy over other parts of Britain for longer or shorter periods. We find at one time the country from the German Ocean to the island of Anglesea under their sway; cutting off the southern part of the Strathclyde kingdom, which at one time extended as far south as Warwick, they invaded and occupied the south-west part of Scotland—Ayrshire, Dumfriesshire, and Galloway. How long they occupied this part of the country is

Digitized by Google

somewhat uncertain—long enough, however, to leave their mark in our local nomenclature, as we are reminded of by the names Thor, Wald, Wick, Fell, Dal, &c. This short sketch has been given for the purpose of pointing out the firm hold these various Teutonic races had upon the north-east of England, and what is now called the lowlands of Scotland. The conquering races having utterly exterminated the former inhabitants, the Britons, their language was entirely freed from any chance of intermixture from the conquered race, and it is to the remains of this old language I intend, very shortly, to direct your attention. Of course, it was to have been expected that the two districts deriving from the same source, although kept in a great measure apart for now nearly 900 years, should have a good deal in common, but I was not prepared to find that after a lapse of so long a time the two dialects should in so remarkable a manner resemble each other, and that so many hundreds of words should be in common use in both dialects, although quite obsolete in other parts of the country; and not only words, but the idioms, modes, and turns of expression, proverbial sayings and phrases, and the use of a number of words found in our current literature, but which have lost their original meaning in a great degree, are still in use, retaining in a great measure their primary signification. My attention was called more particularly to the subject by seeing an admirable and exhaustive work lately published, "A Glossary of the Cleveland Dialect," by the Rev. J. C. Atkinson, LL.D. On going through the Glossary I find, on a rough estimate, upwards of 1500 words obsolete in most other parts of the kingdom, including words above referred to as retaining their primary meanings, common to both districts. A few of these words, phrases, idioms, &c., may be given as examples. The changes in our language between the times of Chaucer and Spencer are very marked, and between the latter and our own time nearly as great. I, of course, refer to the current literature of the different periods. But the two districts I have in view—the Lowlands of Scotland and Yorkshire—have been much more conservative in this matter than any other parts of the country; many words used by Chaucer have a lively existence at the present day in these districts. I need only refer to one or two instances out of many that might be adduced. "Brat," now signifying a child's pinafore, is used by writers about Chaucer's

Digitized by Google

time in the sense of a cloak, or outward covering. A.S. *brat*, a cloak, a clout.

> "Which that thei might wrappin hem in a night,
> And a *bratte* to walken in a daie light."

Sc., "Her bits o' *brats* are fairly worn through, though she keeps up an appearance of gentility."

"Pick," pitch.

> "Anoynt the ship with *pick* and tar,
> Without and als within,
> The water out to spar."

"Shog," to shake somewhat roughly.

> "*Shog* him welle and let us lyfte."

We have it in our popular rhymes—

> "Big it in a bog.
> Where it will neither shake nor *shog*."

"Bugg," a ghost, now altered to bogle, is common in both districts. The passage in what is called the "Bug Bible," Ps. xci. v. 5—"Thou shall not be afraid for the *bugges* by night," &c., is an instance of the use of this word. In words common to both districts I may give as a few examples, out of hundreds that might be adduced—"Fike," O.N., *fika;* O.Sw., *fikia*, to bustle; a Yorkshireman says, "T' puir bairn nobbut *fikes* wi' his taes;" we have "When she tak's on her *fickie fykes*." "Deave," O.N., *deyfa*, to deafen, to stun; Yk., "A din fit t' *deave* yan;" Sc., "Whist, woman, whist! dinna *deave* the gentleman wi' your havers." "Gate," "Gait," O.N., *gatta*, a road, a way; Yk., "Let him gan his awn *gate;*" Sc., "Let him gang his ain *gait*." "Sark," O.N., *serkr*, shirt; Yk., "Strippit tiv his *sark* sleeves;" Sc., "I'll gie ye a *sark* fu' o' sair banes." Amongst the phrases common to both districts are "Tak tent," "What for no," and various others. One word in the Glossary struck me as being very interesting in its derivation. "Danish," "Densh," "fastidious, dainty, nice; we have it in the form of Dainshock* (pr. danish), nice, prim; "A *dainish* bit body." I am not sure I have heard the word used in this quarter. It is common on the east side of the country. Atkinson, quoting Wörsaae, says, "So long as the Danish supremacy lasted (in England), the Danes, naturally, could only carry themselves as lords in a conquered country. Their innate taste for magnificence and luxury

* The diminutive "ock" has evidently been added here.

Digitized by Google

was abundantly fostered, and their pride was flattered by the subjugation of the Anglo-Saxons. The old English chronicles contain bitter complaints, touching the humiliation the natives were exposed to. Thus, if an Anglo-Saxon chanced to meet a Dane upon a bridge, he was obliged to wait in a posture of lowly reverence—nay, even if he were on horseback he was obliged to dismount until the Dane had crossed over." Atkinson observes, "Verily, the Dane might be looked upon as 'particular' or 'nice' under such circumstances, and his generic name Dansk passed into a word expressive of such characteristics. In the idioms and modes of expression there is a remarkably similarity —"to *sit* upon one's knee, *i.e.*, to kneel." Chaucer has—

"And doon anon he *sitte* him on his knee."

"To *sit* up on end," in contradistinction to reclining; "I'm *doubtful* it'll rain afore night;" "He has been sair *handled* wi' the cauld;" "I's *jealous* he's after nae guid." We also find words common in our current literature, but used much more in accordance with their use in olden times—"Fetch," in the sense of to carry—"bid him *fetch* it;" "Few," used as a quantity or number—"there was a good *few* at the kirk;" "Reach," to hand a thing to another—"*reach* me yon spade;" "Pit," to match—"thae twa dog's weel *pitted*;" "Even," to compare, to liken—"I wad ill like tae *even* her wi' Jean." The adverb "out" is used as in *out*-by, not far off, just outside; *out*-gang, the way out, an outlet; *out*-ganging, going out of doors; *out*-gate, a way of egress; *out*-ly, thoroughly, fully; *out* o' fettle, out of repair, health, &c. The preposition "by" may be taken as another example—*By*-gang, a by-way; by-passed, used in reference to past time; *by* the time, past the time—"They're lang *by* their time." All the above phrases and use of particular words are identical in both districts. Words are used as augmentatives in both districts, not commonly used as such elsewhere—"Fearful," most *fearful* bonnie; "Desperate," most *desperate* kind; "Terrible," most *terrible* sweet; "Dungeon," a *dungeon* o' wit. The "slang" language of the present day is introducing augmentatives of this kind. A young lady was heard to say the other day, "it was *ripping* fun;" and it is somewhat curious to notice that the present use of the slang word "Fit"—I heard a lady say she "felt very *fit*"—is a reverting back to its old Teutonic application. In Yorkshire they would say—"Weel,

Digitized by Google

ah's aboot *fit* for my dinner;" Sc., "Weel, I'm aboot *fit* for my dinner," "bed," "tea," &c.

III. *Report* by Mr GEORGE F. SCOTT-ELLIOT, B.Sc., on Mr Carruthers' Donation.

Mr Wm. Carruthers has very greatly benefited the Society by the very valuable series of plants in this collection. Members of the Society who will inspect the specimens in the Herbarium will see that they are of the very greatest importance. It is, of course, possible to get specimens of British plants without much trouble, but the importance and value of these specimens lies in the fact that they are in almost every case named by the very best authorities on English Botany. There are amongst them plants named by Mr C. Bailey, Mr A. Brotherston, Mr W. P. Hiern, and other eminent botanists, and many of the sheets have an antiquarian and autographic value which can only be appreciated by examination. Moreover, in point of mere numbers, this collection has at once given a completeness to our Herbarium which I had never dreamed of its attaining, and many of the specimens are of plants so rare that it would have been impossible for us to obtain them in any other way.

6th February, 1891.

Major BOWDEN, V.P., in the Chair.

New Members.—Mr Alexander Bryson, Rev. John Cairns, Mr James Carmont, Mr Philip Sulley, Mr Alexander Turner.

Donation.—The North American Fauna, Nos. 3 and 4, from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington.

COMMUNICATIONS.

I. *References to the Dumfriesshire Flora in Shakespeare and Burns.* By Mr JAMES SHAW (abridged).

In the following brief list I have confined myself to such wild flowers as are in our district, and I have arranged the matter alphabetically:—

The *Anemone*, or wind-flower, called by Dumfriesshire school

Digitized by Google

children "wild snowdrops," is referred to in "Venus and Adonis" as springing up from the blood of the latter.

"A purple flower sprung up, chequered with white."

Again it is made to spring from the tears of Venus.

"And where a tear has dropped a wind-flower blows."

Columbine.—Ophelia says to Hamlet—

"There's fennel for you and columbines."

The columbine signified ingratitude. When Ophelia became crazed she had garlands.

"There with fantastic garlands did she come
Of crow-flowers, nettles, daisies, and long purples."

The crow-flower in those days was "ragged robin."

"When daisies pied and violets blue,
And lady-smocks all silver white,
And *Cuckoo-buds* of yellow hue
Do paint the meadows with delight."
Love's Labour's Lost, V., 2.

Commentators are uncertain concerning these cuckoo-buds, but it is referred to one of our yellow ranunculuses.

King Lear was met (IV., 4)

"As mad as the vexed sea, singing aloud;
Crowned with rank fumiter and furrow weeds,
With burdocks, hemlock, nettles, *cuckoo-flowers*,
Darnel, and all the idle weeds that grow
In our sustaining corn."

Cuckoo-flowers are said to be like crow-flowers, a name for our "ragged robin." *Darnel* does not grow in our county, but the others named can be easily recognised.

Elder, that is our "Boor-tree." According to superstition, Judas was hanged on an elder. Shakespeare makes it an emblem of grief.

Cymb. IV., 2.

"Grow patience!
And let the stinking elder, grief, untwine
His perishing root with the increasing vine."

Fern.—It was a curious notion that fern seed was supposed to have the power of rendering persons invisible.

I. Henry IV. (II., 1).

"We have the receipt of fern seed, we walk invisible."

Digitized by Google

Harebell.—This flower (Cymb. IV., 2) is considered our own *craw-tae.*

"Sweet the craw-tae's early bell
Decks Gleniffer's dewy dell."

Tannahill.

In Shakespeare it is associated with another spring flower.

"Thou shalt not lack
The flower that's like thy face, pale primrose, nor
The azured harebell, like thy veins."

Hemlock.—In "Macbeth" we have—

"Root of hemlock digg'd i' the dark"

among the horrid ingredients of the witches' cauldron. Its scientific name *Conium* means a cone or top, whose whirling motion resembles the giddiness its poisonous juice produces.

Holy Thistle.—This is the *Carduus Benedictus* found growing on the banks of the Euchan, Sanquhar, perhaps its only inland station in our county.

"Get you some of this distilled *Carduus Benedictus* and lay it to your heart; it is the only thing for a qualm."

Much Ado, &c., III., 4.

Ivy.—It was a custom to hang a bush of Ivy at a vintner's door. Hence the illusion to it in "*As you like it.*"

"If it be true that good wine needs no bush, 'tis true that a good play needs no epilogue."

Polygonum Aviculare, or "Knotgrass."

"Get you gone, you dwarf,
You minimus of hindering knotgrass made, you bead, you acorn."

Midsummer, &c., III., 2.

Lady Smocks.

"And lady smocks, all silver white."

This seems to mean our Cardamine pratense. Gerald says—

"It flowers in April and May."

Long Purples.—These are generally considered to be the early purple orchis. In Tynron they are called "bull-dairies." Shakespeare also calls them "Dead men's fingers," from the pale colour and hand-like shape of the tubers.

"Our cold maids do dead men's fingers call them."

One would have guessed these to have been fox-gloves, known in Scotland as "Dead men's bells." But that would not suit Ophelia's garland, containing a yellow ranunculus, for the

Digitized by Google

ranunculus family is early, whereas the fox-glove is rather a July flower.

Marigold.—There was a curious notion that this flower opened or shut with the sun.

"The marigold that goes to bed with the sun and with him rises weeping."
Winter's Tale, IV., 3.

"When winking Mary-buds begin
To ope their golden eyes,
With everything that pretty bin
My maiden sweet arise."
Cym., II., 3—Description of morning.

Plantain.—This plant was valued because of its supposed healing virtues for wounds.

Rom.—"Your plantain leaf is excellent for that."
Benvolio—"For what, I pray thee?"
Rom.—"For your broken skin."

In Scotland a leaf of the plantain, called the *waeburn* leaf, or *waybread* leaf, used to be wrapped round a toe with a corn to mollify the pain thereof.

Rosemary, or as it is called *Sweet Mary* in Dumfriesshire, is an old-fashioned garden perennial. It is a Labiate, but comes from the Mediterranean basin. In Shakespeare's time it seems to have been a symbol for memory.

"There's rosemary, that's for remembrance."
Hamlet.

In "Winter's Tale"—

"For you there's rosemary and rue, these keep;
Seeming and savour all the winter long.
Grace and remembrance be to you both,
And welcome to our sheep-shearing."

Rush.—Rushes were strewn upon floors previous to the introduction of carpets. In "Cymbeline"—

"Tarquin thus
Did softly press the rushes."

In "Henry IV."—

"She bids you in the wanton rushes lay you down and rest your gentle head upon her lap."

Vide also "Romeo and Juliet," I., 4. The "rush candle" is mentioned in the "Taming of the Shrew."

There is a funny illusion to the *Hawthorn* in "A Midsummer Night's Dream"—

"This man, with lanthorne, dog, and bush of thorn represented Moonshine."

Digitized by Google

We have all heard of the "Man of the Moon."

Violets.—The violet was an emblem of early death.—*Pericles, IV.*, 1.

In "Winter's Tale" there is a beautiful allusion to them—

"O, Proserpina,
For the flowers now, that, frighted, thou lett'st fall
From Dis's waggon! daffodils
That come before the swallow dares and take*
The winds of March with beauty; violets, dim,
But sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes,
Or Cytherea's breath; pale primroses
That die unmarried, ere they can behold
Bright Phœbus in his strength; bold oxlips and
The crown-imperial; lilies of all kinds,
The flower-de-luce being one."

I must dismiss Burns with a very few words. Everyone has admired his poem on the *Daisy*, his comparison of the pleasures of life to the evanescent bloom of *poppies*, his lone glen o' green *brackens*, wi' the burn stealing under the lang yellow *broom*, the *rose* and the *woodbine* twining along the banks of Doon, the fragrant *birk*, the *hawthorn* hoar that mingled together overlooking the stream of the Ayr. In the matter of flowers, however, he was a poet first and a florist afterwards. He pulls a posie for his ain dear May, but it is an ideal posie, impossible in nature. He puts into it the primrose and the rose. He places the hyacinth beside the hawthorn, entirely regardless of times and seasons. At the same time, in his "Lament of Mary Queen of Scots," there is tender pathos in the references to spring flowers she can neither see nor enjoy, although there is again inaccuracy in having the slae and the hawthorn blooming simultaneously. His fervid allusions to our Scottish heather are also dear to our hearts, while his pithy song of "Green grow the rashes" is rooted in our memories. On New Year's Day, 1789, he addressed a letter to Mrs Dunlop. "I have some favourite flowers in spring, among which are the mountain daisy, the harebell (here he evidently means the blue squill or hyacinth of our woods), the fox-glove, the wild brier rose (here he gets mixed, putting in summer blooms), the budding birch, and the hoary hawthorn, that I view and hang over with particular delight." In all these cases the intensity of emotion created by these beautiful objects of nature in the poet's breast must more than excuse any inaccuracy in observation.

* Charm.

Digitized by Google

II. *Further Original Letters, &c., of the Burns Period.*

By Mr James R. Wilson.

Mr Wilson stated that he had discovered these letters among the papers of the late Dr Grierson, Thornhill, and although they were scarcely of the same literary merit as those he made public last year, they were still of considerable value to all interested in the literary characters of the Burns period, and of the early part of this century. The members were, of course, aware that there were in the museum in Thornhill many relics of Burns and of his associates. In particular and most prized of all there was a copy of "The Whistle" in the poet's own hand-writing, bearing the following note by Mr William Grierson, the doctor's father:—"Received a present of this poem, which is in the hand-writing of the poet, from his brother Gilbert Burns, enclosed in a letter dated Grant's Braes, 14th December, 1815.—William Grierson." On opening the case in which the poem is preserved the letter referred to was found. It is most interesting, and shows clearly the known sagacity of the writer. This is the letter:—

Grant's Braes, 14th Dec., 1815.

Dear Sir,—A thousand times have I reproached myself for being so long of acknowledging receipt of your obliging letter by Mr T. Sibbald, with the very elegant engraving accompanying it (an engraving of the mausoleum), but I have been much and disagreeably occupied of late with sequestrating stock and crop, attending meetings of creditors, the sale of bankrupts' subjects, &c.

"Peace and plenty," formerly the toast and wish of the ill-advised, have come upon us with a vengeance, and their ill effects are felt particularly severe in this county of wheat—almost exclusively devoted to corn farming—and I have not seen the country in general in such a depressed desponding state since the conclusion of the American War. Not after all but we are to consider peace as a good thing, but a newly-acquired peace, while the war expenditure has not yet ceased, can scarcely fail to produce a depression—I hope only a temporary one—but it appears somewhat preposterous that plenty should be productive of evil. I was quite vexed I was not at home the last time you called here, that I might have given you your choice of the specimens of the poet's hand-writing in my possession. The one I have sent is not a good specimen of his writing, being hurriedly written with bad ink; but upon the whole I considered it the most respectable I had to send you, being a poem composed on the banks of the Nith, the persons and scenery familiar to you.

My wife joins me in kindest compliments to Mrs Grierson and you. Tell Mrs G. it would give me great pleasure to see her at her ain fire en', and I am not without hopes of having that pleasure, but every year I live

Digitized by Google

increases my reluctance to undertake a long journey, and every year increases the difficulty of my leaving home; but when the mausoleum is completed I shall certainly, if then in health, endeavour to make a visit to Dumfries.—With best wishes for your family happiness and prosperity, I am, my dear sir, your most obedt. humble servant,

(Signed) GILBERT BURNS.

William Grierson, Esq.,
Merchant, Dumfries.

There was an interesting statement in the late Doctor's writing relating to an incident which occurred at Penpont to Burns while prosecuting his duties as officer of Excise. It was taken from the statement of Mrs Wallace, widow of the late Alexander Wallace, weaver, Thornhill, who was born in 1788, and was at the time 75 years of age, thus showing that it was written in 1863. She stated that her father, James Hastings, was a servant to the Rev. Mr Keyden, of Penpont, and when in his service had occasion early one morning to take his horses to the blacksmith's shop at Townhead. When passing through Penpont he observed a scuffle among some men in front of the public-house kept by Mrs M'Math. One of them was lying upon the ground calling for assistance, but Hastings supposing that the man was drunk gave no attention to the request. As he passed towards Townhead he observed some horses on the Corsegate or Corseroad laden with barrels, and he afterwards learned that the affray he had witnessed was between a party of smugglers and Burns, the officer of Excise, and that the officer was the person who had been knocked down and was calling for assistance. Hastings was afterwards summoned to answer before the Justice of Peace Court in Thornhill for refusing to give aid to Burns when called upon. Burns prosecuted, and Hastings having pled the mistake he had made in thinking it was a drunken brawl was acquitted. The public-house referred to was the house recently taken down and rebuilt by Mr Douglas at the east end of the Corseroad, Penpont, and in the present building there is inserted the date stone of the old house bearing the following initials and date :—"T.M., I.M., 1733." These are the initials of Thomas M'Math and his wife, who at that date built the old public-house. Mrs Wallace also states that when Gilbert Burns removed from Dinning Farm, parish of Closeburn, Mr Bacon, of Brownhill Inn, bought the bed in which Burns was born, that it was placed in the stable at the inn, and that James Hastings, her father, slept

Digitized by Google

in it when a servant there. She describes it as a "wee, black, oak bed, so low in the top that you could scarcely stand on your knees in it," and adds that her father got many a shilling for showing his bed to travellers who came to the inn. She also states that Gilbert Burns when at Dinning was the first farmer in Nithsdale who had a dairy of Ayrshire cows. She tells the following story:—One evening when Burns and Bacon were sitting in a room of the inn a man from Leadhills entered. In a little Burns rose and went out, and the man inquired who he was. Bacon answered that he was the poet, and the man remarked that he was but a clown, which doubtless Burns overheard. Thereupon Bacon bet a bottle of wine with him that Burns would make a poem on him when he came in. Accordingly on Burns' return he was asked to make a poem. Burns asked his name, and was answered Andrew Horner, and also when he was born, and was told 1739. Then said Burns:—

> In the year seventeen hundred and thirty-nine,
> The deil got stuff to make a swine,
> And threw it into a corner,
> And called it Andrew Horner.

Mr Wilson discovered several other letters bearing upon the erection of the mausoleum. The first is from Robert Ainslie, W.S., who accompanied Burns on his Border tour, and to whom he addressed many of his best epistles. It runs:—

William Grierson, Esq.

Sir,—The letter addressed by you and Mr Henry Duncan to me, dated 16th December, having been sent to Edingham, where I have not been since the middle of November, and the roads having been blocked up by the snow, these two circumstances have combined to prevent me from receiving it until within these two days. I am much gratified by the gentlemen at your very respectable meeting relative to the mausoleum to the memory of Burns having thought of me as a member of their Committee, and I willingly accept of their nomination. I am only afraid that being so much resident in Edinburgh, where I am following my profession of a Writer to the Signet, I may be but an inefficient member. When I am in the county, however, you and your friends may rely on my always attending every meeting which takes place during that time.—I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT AINSLIE.

Hill's Street, Edinburgh,
3d Feb., 1814.

There were two letters to the Secretary, Mr Grierson, from K. W. Barnett, Edinburgh, who, along with Sir Walter Scott, took

Digitized by Google

an active interest in securing subscriptions towards the erection of the mausoleum. He was probably connected with Lord Monboddo, father of Miss Burnett, to whom Burns in his "Address to Edinburgh" pays one of his most inspired compliments—

Fair Burnet strikes the adoring eye,
Heav'ns beauties on my fancy shine;
I see the sire of love on high,
And own his work indeed divine.

They were in the following terms:—

Edinburgh, 12th Feb., 1814.

Sir,—I had some time ago a letter from you and your brother secretary for the committee of gentlemen who are raising a fund for erecting a monument to my much-admired friend, Mr Burns, and take this opportunity of expressing my most earnest wishes for the success of a measure which will do that country which produced one of its greatest ornaments in poetry very great honour. The subscription paper I have given to Mr Goldie, bookseller, Princes Street, to hang up in his shop, but as Kincardineshire was the county of Mr Burns' father's birth, and still contains a number of his relations, I submit to you the propriety of sending me a few additional copies of the proposals that I may distribute them in that county and Aberdeenshire.—With my hearty wishes for success, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

K. W. Burnett.

My D. daughter, whom you took charge of to Dumfries, is in good health, and very sensible of your polite attention to her.

Edinburgh, 26th Dec., 1814.

Dear Sir,—As soon as I received your letter I had some communication with Mr Scott, and have ever since been making great progress in collecting the subscription money for poor Burns' monument, most of which I have now received; but until our Court meet again I cannot complete them, as I shall to-morrow set out for St. Andrews for about a fortnight or more. In a few days after my return to town I shall send you the whole, with a statement of their amount. Here I cannot boast of much success, having only procured a guinea from Mr Jeffrey, the celebrated lawyer, and put down myself for two. The play produced only £39 14s neat, but there was short warning, and on Tuesdays the house is generally thin. I believe when all shall be collected I shall have to transmit to you £60 14s or thereby. My endeavours in the north country totally failed. Indeed, I could not discover in the How of the Mearns where Mr Burns' father had been born, and must have had many relations, a single person who counted kin with him, the last that could be recollected having removed about a score of years ago to Aberdeenshire. He was a farmer of the name of Burness, and, I have heard, the poet's cousin. I blush for the indifference of Scotland to a genius that did her so much honour, and hope that your success in England will make some amends, however painful the reflection that Burns' native country pays so little respect to his memory.

Digitized by Google

Wishing you many returns of the season, I am always, dear sir, yours most faithfully, K. W. BURNETT.

Another letter was from William Douglas, M.P., one of the members of the Mausoleum Committee, the spirit of which did him considerable credit, as persons in official positions were generally imposed upon when subscriptions were required for any object under the sun. He thought right to show the honest feeling it breathed.

Castle, January 21st, 1814.

Sir,—I enclose the covers frank'd as you desired. I know of no person in Aberdeen fitter than Mr Thomson for receiving the subscriptions.

The subscription paper and resolutions which you sent me have been committed to the care of Mr Alex. M'Millan, in Castle-Douglas, who will lose no opportunity of obtaining any little matter which the people of the place and neighbourhood may feel disposed to contribute. It is quite right to try every person and every place, but I do not expect much here, as the neighbourhood, especially the wealthier part of it, will most probably forward their subscriptions to Dumfries. I have some difficulty about my own. I am not less averse to ostentatious forwardness than I am to parsimony. I neither wish to fall short of the liberality that is proper nor to presume beyond it, and would much rather, as one of the committee, give somewhat additional afterwards, if necessary, for completing the design, than be emblazoned on the page of a public subscription paper. If you think ten guineas right, let that be my subscription in the meantime. If too much or too little omit me till I see you in a few days hence as I pass to London, where I can be made acquainted with the subscriptions of persons similarly situated and conform to their example.

By-the-way, a little more of the profits of poesy might have been dedicated by the most fortunate of our Border minstrels to decorate the memory of a less fortunate bard.

However, it is not by the liberality of a few individuals, but by the amount of the general subscriptions, that the committee's object is to be attained.—I remain, sir, your very obedt., WILLM. DOUGLAS.

Mr Wm. Grierson, Dumfries.

Mr Wilson also found the following letter in connection with the Burns Club from William Tennant, author of "Anster Fair," then teacher of classical and oriental languages in Dollar Academy, and afterwards Professor of Oriental Languages in St. Mary's College, St. Andrews:—

Dollar Academy, Feb. 2nd, 1822.

Sir,—I received duly your esteemed favour of 25th notifying to me my admission as honorary member of the Dumfries Burns Club, an honour for which be pleased to accept of my warmest and most respectful gratitude. May much joy and convivial blessedness attend your sittings.

Should Mr M'Diarmid be within your reach, I shall be obliged to you

Digitized by Google

by your bestowing upon him my best regards. I should be very happy to be near such chosen spirits as your club consists of, and to replenish my little glass from the plenitude of Burns' china punch bowl; and with best wishes to you, sir, your president, and all your other members, I am, with much respect, your very faithful servant, WM. TENNANT.

Mr Wilson read a number of very interesting letters from John Mayne, which he had discovered in looking through the papers of the late Dr Grierson, Thornhill. Mr Wm. Grierson, the late Dr Grierson's father, appeared to have carried on an extensive correspondence with natives of Dumfries resident in other parts of the country. He long acted as factor upon a property in Dumfries which belonged to the mother of John Mayne, author of the "Siller Gun" and other poems, and in many of Mayne's letters to him there are passages which might be of interest even at this distant date. The first is highly interesting to this locality.

London, 13th January, 1809.

William Grierson, Esq., Jun., Dumfries.

Dear Sir,—I received safely your kind present of a New Year's Day bun, a present which calls to mind many pleasing recollections, and is a new proof of the kindness which influences all your conduct when writing to or thinking of me; and I sincerely thank you for your unceasing partiality; wishing you and all your near and dear friends many happy returns of every festive period.

I hope you have begun to supply poor Jock Wilson with a weekly allowance of snuff. Any other innocent luxury that you think necessary to his happiness I will cheerfully pay for. I wish you could learn from him his idea of "Whistle o'er the lave o't" being the composition of John Bruce. You know Burns has ascribed it to him, but I believe it is of much higher antiquity, and that it is one of the many fine old airs that, having been chanted in the Cathedral service when Episcopacy prevailed in Scotland, were vulgarised and degraded by indecent words at the Reformation. Any other information connected with minstrels or minstrelsy, especially as relating to the Siller Gun, will be a most acceptable service to me, and opportunities like the present for obtaining it will not frequently occur. You will readily perceive that on making this inquiry I do not mean to detract from the merit of John Bruce, whose memory I respect. My wish is to ascertain correctly if the air in question is his composition; if not, whether or no he was even distinguished as a composer of any other music.

Now, my dear sir, with respect to your queries about a new paper. It is impossible for me so long estranged from Dumfries to ascertain the probable success of such an experiment. The expense, I am confident, would exceed anything of which you have an idea. The responsibility is at all times irksome, and the labour and anxiety unremitting. Were I to advise you it would be to have nothing to do with it, unless you have very

Digitized by Google

great confidence in the parties who are to edit and print for you. In all the instances of papers begun in this country by a number of proprietors, I have generally noticed that the property ultimately verged towards decay until the majority of the proprietors, worried and teased for money to carry it on, forfeited their shares, and thus condensed it in the hands of their active partners. This was actually the case with the *Star*. It was undertaken at first by not less than 24 persons. Ten of these forfeited, and the remainder agreed to sell. A gentleman and myself bought it, and if the whole property had not been thus vested in few hands it would have ceased to exist many years ago. Besides, the business of printing a newspaper is one of those in which a sleeping partner can never see his way. I should regret, moreover, your embarking in any scheme in which I might be expected to be of service when, from a principle of delicacy, I cannot render you the assistance I could wish. Mr —— (the name is torn out; he began life as an apprentice in the office of the *Dumfries Journal*) is my old master, and I never will violate the respect which I have for his family. This sentiment, however, has not led to the opinion given in the preceding part of this paragraph. You have a right to print or publish as you please, but I really believe that Dumfries is not the market for two newspapers. This being my honest opinion, I know you will not be displeased with my candour, assured that I am with every wish for your welfare,—My dear sir, your much obliged,

J. MAYNE.

Mayne also sent the following poetic letter acknowledging the bun referred to. It is a very clever production, and is not, so far as Mr Wilson knows, contained in his published works: —

London, 4th January, 1809.

In the daft days o' mirth and fun,
The author o' the Siller Gun
To Grierson, friendship's faithfu' son,
This Handsel Monday,
Returns thanks for New'r-day bun
Received on Sunday.

The better day, the better meed,
Handsel'd by you, I'm sure to speed;
Wow, man! but it be dainty bread,
And brings to mind
Pleasures lang past, and friends now dead,
Or left behind.

When I've been skelping through the rain,
Or hunting after news in vain,
I'll think on Nith's sweet banks again,
And taste your bun,
For pleasure, when it follows pain,
Warms like the sun.

Digitized by Google

Warm as the sun and frank and free,
I've marked a constancy in thee—
The type o' what true friends should be;
For without vaunting,
Wealth never yet had charms for me
Where worth was wanting.

To Wightman, priest o' Kirkmahoe,
The gentlest creature here below;
In short, to a' the friends I know
Remember me,
And ne'er may care, that bogle-boe,
Haunt them or thee.

And for their sakes, whom ye revere,
And hers, the dearest o' the dear,
This breast shall glow in love sincere
By wishing to them
The comforts of a gude New-Year,
And mony o' them.

J. MAYNE.

To William Grierson, Esq., of Baitford, Dumfries.

Then followed a letter of date 3rd March, 1809, dealing with the air of "Whistle o'er the lave o't," and a number of Dumfries matters.

London, 3rd March, 1809.

Dear Sir,—Your letter by Dr Brewster came safe, and I thank you very kindly for making me acquainted with that gentleman. I am much obliged to you also for your letter of the 7th ult. in reply to all my queries and wishes. I am glad that you have enabled me through the medium of Johnny Wilson to adhere to my first statement that John Bruce, however famous as a player, was not the composer of the air of "Whistle o'er the lave o't." I always thought that it was of much higher antiquity. Continue your kindness to Mr Wilson, and I will repay you with pleasure. I wish it were possible to get a sketch of John Gass and of William M'Clush, and any other of the worthies that are still living connected with or mentioned in "The Siller Gun." If you can help me to these and to drawings of the Craigs, or of the town, as far as they can illustrate or embellish a future edition of that poem, I will cheerfully and handsomely pay for them. A view of the procession would also be very gratifying. In anything I have done or mean to do on this subject, emolument never entered into my consideration. The town of Dumfries and everything connected with its vicinity are so dear to my heart that it would afford me even a dying pleasure to have been instrumental in diffusing or prolonging a knowledge of their beauties. Entreat Mr Anderson in my name to read the poem over again, and as he reads to write down every anecdote and observation on men and things that occurs to him. I was very hurried when the notes were thrown together. What was worse, I was

Digitized by Google

irritable, nervous, and bilious. If you and any other dear friend will help me to materials I will attack them piecemeal, and endeavour to render a second edition, if ever we arrive at it, more worthy of the public favour. I am proud that any lady, a friend of yours, does me the honour of singing a composition of mine. I have therefore enclosed a correct copy of "Bonaparte o'er the sea," which you can transcribe for her amusement.

* * * * * * * * *

I wish it were in my power to assist you in the goodly work of charity which so laudably engrosses your attention. A good deal of money in old guineas might be picked up here annually for the purpose of improving and extending the comforts of the town's hospital in Dumfries. I do not know any person in London so likely to promote this great end as Mr Kay—he is so well known, and so generally esteemed. I wish you would write to him once more before you go to press with your annual report. I am not only too obscure, but too much occupied with business to be of service to you or him on this occasion. By all means, however, write to the Duke of Queensberry by post. His Grace is benevolence itself, and will, I am sure, be delighted with a new opportunity of smoothing his path to eternity, now fast closing upon him. I claim to myself some merit in having suggested to Mr Laurie of Ironespie the London subscription for the family of Burns, to which I was the first subscriber of five guineas. Mr Laurie was indefatigable for a while, and collected upwards of 200 guineas, which was ultimately vested in the hands, I believe, of Alderman Shaw. I do not know how it comes, but I have a kind of presentiment that this spring will see you in London. Is there any hope of such a pleasure? Commend me to all friends, and believe me truly, my dear sir, your much obliged,

J. MAYNE.

William Grierson, Esq., Junr., Dumfries.

In a friendly letter Mayne congratulated Mr Grierson upon his marriage with Miss Sibbald in a very neat manner:—

London, 14th September, 1815.

I lose no time, my dear sir, in replying to your letter of the 7th from Haddington, received this morning, announcing to me the consummation of all your wishes in your marriage with Miss Sibbald—an event on which I beg leave to congratulate you with my whole heart, entreating my most respectful compliments to your amiable lady, with every wish that you may be—

Blest with all that Heaven can send—
Long life, long health, long pleasure, and a friend.

I have sent the *Star*, as you desired, to Dr Sibbald, and shall always be proud to manifest the respect with which I am, my dear sir, yours truly,

J. MAYNE.

Many editions of the "Siller Gun" were published, and in a letter of date 25th June, 1816, the following occurred:—

London, 25th June, 1816.

Dear Sir,—I am glad that you were so well pleased with the manner in which everything connected with the dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern

Digitized by Google

was conducted. Mr Jerdan made great exertions, and they were most deservedly successful. Enclosed are copies of a few lines of mine in commemoration of Burns, but neither written for nor recited on the above occasion, and have no other merit than their simplicity and truth. I was sorry to observe what you said about the meeting of the Seven Trades in their hall on the King's birthday, that so few of the heroes of 1777 were present.

E'en he whose soul now melts in mournful lays,
Shall shortly want the generous tear he pays.

But you may depend on it that neither Deacon Threshie nor Willie Berry shall be forgotten in the next edition, if ever there is another edition of the "Siller Gun" in my lifetime.

Cracking his jokes, and unco kerry,
Here's Deacon Threshie, wise and merry;
And yonder's blameless Willy Berry
The ladies' glover,
At five and fifty bright as sherry,
And still a lover.

This is something like the manner in which these gentlemen will be mentioned and introduced in the poem, but as I am not certain that these will be the precise words, I shall be obliged by your saying very little to anybody about them. Any notice in the text will afford an opportunity of saying something handsome if you will furnish me with it in the Notes. —I ever am, my dear sir, yours truly, J. MAYNE.

William Grierson, Esq., Dumfries.

The verse contained in this letter was identical with that of verse 13, canto 3d, of the edition of the "Siller Gun," &c., published in 1836.

There were other letters by Mayne, but they referred to matters strictly private or to subjects unimportant at the present day. After his death, Mr Grierson appeared to have been the moving spirit in placing a tablet to his memory in the vestibule of St. Michael's Church, Dumfries. His son wrote to him giving some information for the tablet:—

My Dear Sir,—I now reply more fully to your last communication on the subject of the tablet proposed to be placed in the vestibule of St. Michael's Church, Dumfries. I gather from what you say that your arrangements are now nearly complete, which being the case, I need not further advert to some regret which I feel at not having earlier been made acquainted with the design. You will readily believe that my sister and I are deeply sensible of the value of a testimonial of esteem for the memory of a parent, so dear to us, proceeding from his native townsmen, who in recording their appreciation of his merits will do honour to their own sentiments as well as to his good fame. Collectively and individually,

Digitized by Google

they have our best acknowledgments. I have no doubt you will communicate to me further particulars on this interesting subject.

My father was born in Dumfries on the 26th of March, 1759, and after a life devoted to literary pursuits in this metropolis, and distinguished by every virtue which can adorn a public life or hallow domestic retirement, died on the 14th March, 1836, at his residence in Lisson Grove South, Marylebone. His remains are deposited in the Churchyard of St. Mary's, Paddington.

Most fully estimating your friendship and exertions on this occasion.—I remain, my dear sir, yours very truly, W. H. MAYNE.

London, Friday, 10th March, 1843.

In the correspondence which arose out of this proposal Dr Robert Carruthers, of Inverness, a native of Dumfriesshire, wrote the following spirited letter :—

Inverness, Jan. 24, 1843.

My Dear Sir,—I am glad to see that you are still as active as ever in promoting any laudable or patriotic object connected with our native district. The proposed tablet to the memory of Mr Mayne is a just and proper mark of distinction from his fellow-townsmen, and I am much obliged to you for affording me an opportunity of subscribing towards it. I remember our late excellent friend with strong affection and regard. He was peculiarly kind and attentive to me when I was young and unfriended, and had no claim on his hospitality beyond that of being a native of Dumfries. In later years we had few opportunities of meeting, but I never went to London without seeing him, and we kept up a friendly acquaintance till the time of his death. You knew him much better, and can testify to the warmth of his heart and the strength of his local attachments. Apart, however, from all personal considerations, the merits of Mr Mayne as a Scottish poet entitle him to this posthumous honour from his fellow-townsmen. His muse was a true native of the banks of Nith, and in depicting local scenes and customs he had a certain homely penetrative humour and liveliness of illustration, joined to genuine Scottish simplicity, that are perfectly irresistible with natives of Dumfries and its neighbourhood. I have seen a verse of the "Siller Gun," and even an illusion to the poem, operate as a spell among our townsmen.

Do you mean to confine the subscription to natives of Dumfries? You would recollect Mrs Allan Cunningham, or her son Peter; the latter is a gentleman of literary taste and acquirements. If poor Allan himself had been alive he would have gone cordially into our scheme. I remember Mr Edward Hyslop, of the *Londonderry Journal*, used to be much with our friend about the year 1818 or 1819. There is a very worthy and accomplished native of the County of Dumfries (Mouswald or Dalton, I think) who must have known Mayne. I mean Dr William Beattie, author of various works, as "Scotland Illustrated," "Switzerland Illustrated," &c. If you think of applying to him, his address is No. 6 Park Square, Regent's Park. I have no doubt, however, but your own zeal and intimate

Digitized by Google

acquaintance with Mr Mayne's friends will procure adequate funds for the proposed object.—With much respect and many kind remembrances, I am, my dear sir, yours faithfully, ROBT. CARRUTHERS.

To Wm. Grie son, Esq., Noblehill Cottage.

III. *Folk Lore of Glencairn (continued).* By Mr JOHN CORRIE.

When we remember that so lately as the year 1709 a woman was tried and condemned as a witch in our own good town of Dumfries, while only some fifty years earlier no fewer than nine suffered death by burning on the same indictment, it need occasion no surprise that some still living are unable wholly to disabuse their minds of a certain measure of credence in the existence of witches, warlocks, and others of that ilk, who are supposed to possess the power of interference in our human affairs. The Glencairn Church Session Records contain several references to cases of reputed witchcraft. One of these occurs under date "Apryl nynth," 1694. Another, noticed by Mr Monteith in his little "History of Glencairn," on November 14th, 1707. It is only when we come into contact with the oral traditions of the people, however, that we realise the extent to which a belief in witchcraft must have prevailed. Whole families were credited with a knowledge of the art, and as the faculty was supposed to be transmitted unimpaired from father to son, and from mother to daughter, the credulous were never at a loss for subjects upon which to exercise the superstitious fancy. Among local proficients an old man named Tammas K——— seems to have enjoyed special notoriety. It is said he could get almost anything he wanted, for to refuse him a favour was to court instant and condign punishment. He would knot a wisp of straw, throw it down beside a cow, and next day the cow would either be dead or dying. One day the warlock, as he was generally called, applied to a villager who grew a remarkably fine strain of potato onions for a bulb or two as seed. The man managed to put him off, however, and was rather proud of the achievement, until he discovered a few days afterwards that his entire stock of onions had mysteriously rotted away. On another occasion a villager, in ill odour with the warlock, was engaged leading "rice" (tree loppings) past the line of houses where the warlock lived. As he neared the place, he noticed some of the neighbours laughing and

Digitized by Google

looking in his direction. Turning to ascertain the occasion of their mirth, he was amazed to find that he had nothing but his horse's halter in his hand, both horse and cart having been left standing on the roadway about a quarter of a mile distant. This devilry was clearly due to the malign influence of the warlock, for he was observed engaging in some mystic incantations as the carter approached the door of his dwelling. We may supplement these experiences with a reminiscence of present day witchcraft. The narrative is given, as far as possible, in the words of our informant:—"Auld Jean D———, whose mother and grandmother afore her were baith witches, cam' in ae morning afore a Moniaive fair day tae ask me tae help an' stack hay at Craigdarroch in her place, as she wanted tae gang tae the oo-rowin' at Glencrosh. My mither said 'Het! she's far ower young;' and I said 'I'm doost no gaun,' for, ye see, I had made up my min' tae gang tae the fair. Jean gaed oot o' the door gie ill-pleased like, and my mither said 'She's an ill body, and ye should maybe hae gaen;' but I doost gaed a lauch, an' thocht nae mair aboot it. Well, next morning, believe me or no as ye like, I couldna lift my heid, an' I had gaen tae my bed as weel as I ever felt in my life. My mither said 'Oo, lassie, I think she has bewitched ye;' an' tae tell the truth, I thocht sae mysel', for I never felt the same aither afore or since. I was doost ill wi' a queerness, but for the life o' me couldna tell what was wrang. Next day I was a' richt again, but by that time, of coorse, I had missed the fair." Happily, if the evil was a widespread one preventive or remedial measures were within the reach of all. Thus, a horse-shoe nailed over the threshold was supposed to afford perfect immunity, neither witch nor warlock being able to enter a dwelling where this mode of protection had been adopted. By some a branch of rowan tree was looked upon with equal favour, and bundles of small rowan tree twigs were constantly kept suspended over the doorway, or attached to the top of the box-bed or corner cupboard. Salt was likewise considered efficacious, and when churning had to be done it was customary to put a handful of salt into the churn together with the cream. In the event of the churn getting bewitched through neglect of this precautionary measure, it was necessary to remove both the churn and its contents across running water, for it was only in that way the baneful spell could be neutralised, and butter induced to reward the

Digitized by Google

labours of the churners. Spitting, again, would seem to have been regarded with favour as a means of averting witchcraft, and the practice of spitting in the hand is still followed by rustics, both when they bargain and when they vow eternal friendship, an interesting example of custom surviving long after its original significance has been forgotten. Coming to speak of elves or fairies, we realise that we have to deal with a class of beings very different from the witches and the warlocks. The latter, as the accredited emissaries of Satan, were looked upon with mingled feelings of hatred and fear. The fairies, on the other hand, would almost seem to have enjoyed positive favour. They were admittedly capricious and resentful, however, and as their wrath once aroused was terrible to behold, it became the constant study of the gudewife of the house to propitiate them by every means in her power. Thus, some simple refreshment, such as bread and cheese, was frequently laid out for them in places they were supposed to frequent, and it was an article in the popular creed that those who thus befriended them were liberally rewarded in some way or other for their kindness. We append a narrative communicated by a Moniaive lady, in which gratitude for a favour and resentment at an insult are curiously blended :—Two men were ploughing down in Closeburn parish, when they both felt a strong smell of burning cake; one of them said in an off-hand kind o' way, "Yere cake's burnin'." "Make us a spurtle tae turn it wi', then," said a voice apparently close at hand. The man good naturedly did as directed, and laid the article down on the ground. On returning to the spot he found the spurtle taken away, and bread and cheese left in its place. He partook of both, and likewise gave some to his horses, but his companion would neither taste himself nor allow his horses to taste. An affront of this kind could not be overlooked, and he had not gone many steps until he dropped down dead in the furrow. All-Hallow's Eve was universally recognised as the fairies festival, and on moonlight nights bands of the "little folk" were to be seen dancing in circles on the sward, and the merry tinkle-tinkle of fairy bridles heard as the little equestrians journeyed on their gaily caparisoned steeds to the place of rendezvous. Local recognition seems to have been given to at least four kinds of apparitions, viz., the water kelpy, the goblin, the wraith, and the ghost. In Glencairn we find people who still avow not only that these

Digitized by Google

beings exist, but that they have both seen and spoken to them. We let illustrative examples take the place of description :—Mrs G——— on going out one afternoon to call upon a neighbour, who resided about half a mile distant across the moor, saw her friend evidently coming on the same errand. She therefore retraced her steps, and entering the house, awaited her friend's arrival. Her expected visitor not making her appearance, Mrs G——— went to the door to see what had detained her, but although she gazed in every direction there was no one to be seen. As the afternoon was now far advanced, she decided it would be better to defer her visit until the following day. Walking across on the morrow, she remarked, in the course of conversation, "I saw you on the way to see me yesterday; what made you turn half-road?" "Me coming to see you!" exclaimed her friend. "I can assure you I wasna that, for I was scarce frae my ain fireside the hale day." Both were positive, however, and it was agreed for the time being to avoid all further reference to the matter. A week later Mrs G———'s neighbour died, and her corpse was carried to the churchyard over the very track upon which her wraith had been seen by Mrs G——— on the afternoon of her intended call. My grandfather, while returning one night between eleven and twelve o'clock from a visit he had been paying his son, was startled to see a figure in white come out of the Gap's Mill loaning, and mount the dyke by the roadside. Noiselessly gliding along the top of the fence, it continued to keep pace with him until the Pentoot well was reached, when it mysteriously disappeared. My grandfather was not superstitious, yet this particular encounter he never could altogether explain away. It may be mentioned that the Gap's Mill and Pentoot pens referred to in the narrative were both of evil reputation as having been the scenes of child murder, and I can remember how as a boy "each particular hair stood o' end" as occasion took me near the haunted spots. There is often a ludicrous side to these ghost stories. Take the following example :—A successful pedlar named Mungo Clerk having departed this life, his neighbours agreed that as he appeared to have no near relatives the best thing to do with his money was "to ware 't on himsel'." Mungo accordingly had "a gran' funeral," that is to say, "plenty tae eat and mair tae drink," and so freely was the whisky partaken of that by the time the rite of burial had been performed all were

Digitized by Google

suffering more or less from the effects of their potations, while one had lost the use of his legs altogether. Someone suggested that the incapable should be sent home in the hearse, and without more ado he was slipped inside. When about half way home the driver, who by drunken inadvertence had been told nothing about his passenger, was startled by first a groan and then a yell. Mungo's ghost sure enough, thought the driver, and leaving horse and hearse to their fate he took to his heels, and never stopped until he reached his native clachan. Our Glencairn ghosts appear to have had some special liking for pens and bridges, for Marwhirn, Auchentrown, Auchencheyne, Blackstone, and Kirkland bridges have all at one time or another harboured their respective spectres. Several of these have now been "laid," however, by the cudgel of the wayfarer, and the others have quietly disappeared before the onward march of mind. With our forefathers prayers, spells, and exorcisms seem to have been the accepted weapons of defence against hostile spirits, and recourse was usually had to these when their obstinacy rendered interference necessary. The ordeal was always a trying one, however, and called for the utmost circumspection on the part of the exorcised, rash interference having not infrequently resulted in the would-be "layer" of the ghost finding himself ignominiously "laid." In the ceremony of ghost-laying the Bible seems to have been considered an indispensable adjunct. Birds somehow occupy a much more important place in popular superstitions than quadrupeds, and it is curious to find that most of our bird visitors are subjects of superstitious favour. Thus it is a popular belief with us that the direction from which the cuckoo's note is first heard is that in which the hearer will go on an important and successful journey before the year is out, while it is looked upon as an omen of good luck when a swallow comes to build its nest beneath the cottage eaves. We have a curious notion in Glencairn that the barley awn chokes the cuckoo, and hence it is that the cuckoo's note is never heard after the barley becomes shot. Superstition has not wholly despised our resident birds, however, and there are few, we are disposed to think, who will regret that her protecting mantle has been thrown around the friendly robin. It is commonly believed with us that when a robin comes fluttering to the window earlier in the autumn than usual it is a sign that the approaching winter will be an excep-

Digitized by Google

tionally severe one. The belief has probably nothing but its beauty to commend it, but we almost think it deserves to live were it for that alone. The birds generally have come to look upon man as a foe, and it should be pleasing to find that one at least continues to trust in him as a friend. According to the old jingle—

> The robin and the wren
> Are God Almighty's cock and hen;
> If ye take out o' their nest
> Ye'll never thrive again.

Would that a similar notion of ill-luck attended the persecution of all our birds. The yellow-hammer, less fortunate than the robin, is the subject of universal reproach, and for no other reason that we know of than that it chances to wear the devil's livery of yellow. The song of the yellow hammer is monotonous in the extreme, and in Glencairn the notes of which it is composed have been interpreted into the request "please will ye gie me a wee bit bread and cheese?" the *e* in the final syllable being drawn out to correspond with the last note of the song. Among quadrupeds the cat has long been looked upon with suspicion, a circumstance due no doubt to the belief that this was one of the forms in which witches were wont to masquerade. Great importance seems to have been attached to the position in which the first lamb or the first foal was seen, for should either of these animals be discovered "lying," then a year of sickness was signified, but if seen in motion then health and activity were supposed to be assured throughout the year. That humble little animal the house-cricket, or "charker," as it is locally called, has been extremely fortunate in the superstitions which attach to it, and there are few people who would knowingly kill a "charker," as its companions would be sure to eat holes in their clothes. "Charkers" are likewise supposed to bring luck to a house, and I am credibly informed that they are occasionally captured and conveyed to the home in the hope that luck will be conveyed there with them. The snail, again, is esteemed an invaluable remedy for warts. Here is the recipe:—Procure a black snail and kill it, rub the wart or warts with it once a day for a week, and carefully preserve the snail after each application. By the end of the prescribed period the wart will become dry and crumble away. When bees swarm they are "rung down"

Digitized by Google

with a frying pan or whatever other tinkling instrument may be most convenient, a custom which, as an old writer quaintly observes, "may be of good use to let the neighbours know you have a swarm in the air, but of very little purpose to the reclaiming of the bees." The hare, like the cat, is looked upon with suspicion, and when a hare crosses the path of a wayfarer it is an omen of impending misfortune. Toads, again, are considered "pushionable beasts;" while the Common Lizard or "Ask" is supposed to be addicted to jumping down people's throats. As a crowning absurdity, we have the belief that when horse hairs are put into water they turn into eels.

New-Year's Day in Scotland, although fast being superseded by Christmas as a festival, has long possessed its distinctive rites and ceremonies. In Glencairn our boys and girls still go through the village on New-Year's Eve chanting the song—

Hog-nog-nay, troll-lol-lay,
Gie's a piece of pancake,
An' I'll rin away;
I'll naither come to your door
To beg or to borrow,
But I'll come to your door
To sing away sorrow.

Among their elders the practice of first-footing is engaged in with equal spirit, and not always, we fear, with equal judgment, for while the intention may be friendly, the consequences are often such as all true friends must deplore. In the earlier years of the century children were not unfrequently allowed to join in these midnight revels, and we can easily imagine the demoralising effect of the excesses to which they must often have been eye-witnesses. In better regulated households the observance took a less vicious form, each child being presented with a "piece" and a penny "for luck" before leaving bed on New-Year's morning. Another peculiar custom associated with the anniversary of the year was the rivalry among village maidens to get the "ream" or "flower of the well," the maiden who reached the well first being supposed to get the best husband.

Twall struck. Twa neebour hizzies raise,
An' liltin', gaed a sad gate;
"The *flower o' the well*" to our house gaes,
An' I'll the bonniest lad get.

Digitized by Google

No ashes or sweepings were allowed to be taken out on New-Year's Day, for there was a danger of taking out the luck for the year with them. To meet an ill body on the morning of this particular day was looked upon as unfortunate, but to meet a "gude body" was "muckle worth." Flat-footed people, again, were supposed to possess a peculiarly baneful presence at this season, and all such were carefully avoided. Another curious belief was that work commenced in the old year should upon no account be left unfinished till the new, else its resumption would be attended by disastrous consequences.

Leaving the New-Year and its associations, we have now to glance somewhat hurriedly at a variety of beliefs which could not be conveniently referred to elsewhere. Some of these may be considered puerile in character, but they at least serve to show how the ordinary everyday occurrences of life may be transformed and magnified by the superstitious imagination until they become signs and omens of weighty import. Stones are occasionally found fashioned by skill or accident into some unusual shape. These the credulous invest with superstitious importance; and I have in my possession a stone, with the impress of five fingers on its surface, which the devil is said to have hurled in anger at some one who had outwitted him. Pins, although insignificant to look at, have long occupied an important place in folk-lore. Thus we have the rhyme—

> See a pin and pick it up,
> All the day you'll have good luck.

In Glencairn we have a saying—"Every tenth step find either a horse hair or a pin"—which may also be intended to convey the idea of luck. Black pins, however, are most unfortunate, and woe awaits the bride in whose dress a black pin finds a place. Among the numerous superstitions connected with clothing perhaps the most prevalent is that the clothes of the dead never wear long. It is another wide-spread belief that should a new dress be either burned or torn the first time it is put on some misfortune is sure to befall the wearer before the dress is worn out. When the new moon is seen, the apron is turned to ensure luck throughout the month. Money is sometimes similarly treated; and it is always considered lucky to have money in the pocket when the new moon makes its appearance. Most people are familiar with the notion that when the right ear tingles some

Digitized by Google

person is speaking well of one, but should the sensation be in the left ear then the opposite is the case. The itching of the foot, again, is supposed to indicate that the person experiencing it will shortly walk on strange ground; while an itching palm is appropriately associated with the coming of money. When anyone happens to sneeze he is asked, "Wha's kirn hae ye been at?" A hiccough is also looked upon as an evidence of theft, but not necessarily of the same specific character. The dock leaf is still popular as a cure for nettle-sting, and children continue to interrogate the feathery seed heads of the dandelion as to the time of day, carefully regulating, no doubt, the force of the respective puffs so as to ensure an approximately correct answer. The luck of a sprig of four-leaved clover is, of course, proverbial; but it may not be so generally known that equal importance was at one time attached to the finding of a Saint John nut, or a nut with two kernels. There are a number of minor superstitions more or less intimately connected with the home, which we may here briefly summarise. A "flichen" on the grate or the tongs falling foretells the coming of visitors. The kettle "sobbing" on the fire is an intimation that some long-absent friend will shortly return. If the kettle is allowed to boil longer than is desirable it is said "to boil a' the lads away." A speck on the flame of a candle heralds the coming of a letter, and if the letter is already on the way the speck is expected to fall when the candlestick has been given a sharp rap on the table. Froth forming on the top of a cup of tea indicates riches, while the grounds at the bottom reveal the secrets of futurity.

6th March, 1891.

Mr Robert Murray in the Chair.

New Member.—Dr Anstruther Davidson, of Los Angeles, California, formerly of Sanquhar, was elected an honorary member.

Donations.—The United States Geological Survey Report for 1887-8; the Transactions of the Canadian Institute, Toronto, October, 1890; Transactions of the Banffshire Field Club, 1887-8;

Digitized by Google

and 27 numbers of the journal and proceedings of the Linnean Society, presented by Mr W. D. Robinson-Douglas, Orchardton.

Communications.

I. *Notes on the Flora of Dumfriesshire.* By Mr Arthur Bennett, F.L.S., Croydon.

Directly I read Mr J. T. Johnstone's paper on the "Flora of Moffat," I remembered some papers that appeared in the "Phytologist," and on referring to them, I found that some of the species accredited to Mr Sadler had been before reported, and by a very fair botanist—Mr W. Stevens—who resided in Dumfries. He was a correspondent of Mr H. C. Watson, and in his herbarium are several plants from the county, and on the old adage, "Honour to those to whom honour is due," I am sure Mr Johnstone would wish to see that given to Mr Stevens. Mr Stevens' paper appeared in the 3d vol. of the "Phytologist" (1848), p.p. 390-393 (the old series edited by G. Luxford). I will give the plants where it seems some addition to the knowledge of the county botany :—

Subularia Aquatica.—Loch Skew, intermixed with *Littorella lacustris*, which latter is by far more abundant. I suppose this would mean Loch Skene by a reference later on.

Geranium Sylvaticum.—A variety with the flowers much smaller, and of a rose colour, occurs in a plantation by the side of the Edinburgh road near Carronbridge ; it is probably the same as that mentioned in "Bab. Man." (2d ed.), as found at Dollar by Dr Greville, and which the author supposes to be the var. *fastigiatum of Fries.*

Callitriche Pedunculata Psessilis.—Margin of Loch Skew at the end nearest to the White Coombe. (This would now be named *C. hamulata.*)

Peucedanum Ostruthium.—At the foot of Carronbridge.

Atriplex Deltoidea, Pab.—Corn fields about Thornhill and Drumlanrig.

Arum Maculatum, L.—Drumlanrig woods, sparingly.

Potamogeton Lanceolatus.—Stagnant pools at the foot of the Morton Hills; ditch near Auchenbainzie Loch. This, I have little doubt, would prove to be *P. nitens Nolte*, as it was named at the date of Mr Stevens' paper *lanceolatus.*

Digitized by Google

Carex Atrata.—Rocky cliffs on the top of a hill near Hartfell.

Carex rigida.—Summit of Hartfell, over a space of more than half-a-mile.

Carex irrigua.—In a boggy meadow at the foot of the Morton Hills, near the ruins of Morton Castle.

Ceterach Officinarum.—On walls about Drumlanrig.

Woodsia Ilvensis.—This rare and handsome little fern I found in considerable abundance on very steep, crumbling rocks amongst the hills dividing the Counties of Dumfries and Peebles in July last (1848); it is growing in dense tufts in the crevices of the rocks, and very luxuriant, many of the fronds measuring nearly six inches in length. At page 452 Mr Stevens connects "Loch Skew" to Loch Skene. In the first volume of the "Phytologist" (1844), Mr J. Cruickshank gives a list of fifty-one species of *Jungermanniæ*, with localities. In the same volume (p.p. 416-419) Mr Peter Gray gives a "List of the rarer flowering plants and ferns of the neighbourhood of Dumfries, with remarks on the physical conditions of the district." In vol. 3, pp. 254-258, Mr P. Gray also has a paper on "Plants occurring near Dumfries," but this is all on the Kirkcudbright side. The only reference to Dumfries is a dubious *Carex* found "in the wood beside Lincluden." On the 24th of January, 1860, Mr Thomas Brisbane, of Dumfries, read a paper, "Notes on the Autumnal Flora of Dumfries and the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, communicated to the Fleming Society of Natural Science, New College, Edinburgh, by Robert Brown, F.R.P.S., Treasurer." On the 7th of February in the same year, Mr John Sadler, secretary, B.S.E., etc., read a paper entitled "Excursion to the neighbourhood of Moffat" before the same Society. He here speaks of finding *Pyrola secunda* at the "Beld Craig Linn." In the "Phytologist" for 1848, Mr P. Gray records finding a single specimen of *Pyrola rotundifolia* growing with or near to *P. media* "among heath towards Hillhead." This is Kirkcudbright, of course, but I do not think it has been recorded for that county. I have jotted down these notes, as I see it is proposed to commence a "Flora of Dumfries," and these references may be of use as where to look for records and information. I have consulted Mr M'Andrew's list to avoid giving needless repetitions. Mr Stevens' paper contains the indication of three species additional to the Dumfries, even as at present known—*i.e.*, *Subularia aquatica*, *Callitriche hamulata*,

Digitized by Google

and what is probably *Potamogeton nitens*, a species that years ago passed as the *P. lanceolatus Smith* in Britain. I have seen specimens so named that are unquestionably *nitens*. Search should be made for these this season; the first is very likely to occur, and additional counties are recorded for it nearly every year. Last year I received it from the Shetland Isles and the Outer Hebrides, and it has occurred in Kirkcudbright.

II. *Some of the Military Preparations in Dumfriesshire during the last war with France.*

By the Rev. Robert W. Weir, M.A.

In February, 1793, the French Republic declared war against Great Britain. With the exception of an interval of about a twelvemonth after the peace of Amiens, and a shorter interval after Bonaparte's retreat to Elba, this war lasted till the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 caused the final overthrow of the great soldier who for so long disturbed the peace of Europe. During these 21 years our nation had to make great naval and military preparations not only for foreign, but for home service. The fear of invasion from France was never altogether absent, and there were times when the people lived in constant dread of the arrival of a French fleet, and the landing of a French army on some part of the coast. During this period the patriotic spirit of the nation was thoroughly roused, and there is evidence that every preparation was made to resist an invading army. My object in writing this paper is to describe the part which the people of Dumfriesshire played in making preparation for the defence of the County.

When war was declared the Government had to be prepared to resist not only invasion from abroad, but a spirit of rebellion and dissatisfaction caused by some who were imbued with the principles of the leaders of the French Revolution. Accordingly the earliest measures taken for military preparations were designed to resist both foes. In July, 1793, the ministers of Dumfries read in both parish churches this declaration, and intimated that all would have an opportunity of signing it:—"We whose names are here subscribed do most solemnly declare that we are firmly attached to the present happy Constitution as established in King, Lords, and Commons; that we detest all

Digitized by Google

the principles which have been attempted to be disseminated by wicked and designing men tending to destroy all government and introduce anarchy and confusion; that we will assist Government in repelling all foreign invaders, and will assist the Civil Magistrate when called upon to do so for the purpose of repressing all riots or tumults that may arise in the County of Dumfries." The same declaration was doubtless read in the other parish churches of Dumfriesshire; but it would appear that at first it had not the desired effect. In the *Dumfries Weekly Journal* of 12th September, 1793, it is said that designing persons had spread a report that the proposed enrolment of Volunteers was a plan to kidnap men into the regular service without the payment of a bounty, and an appeal is made to the people to discard these unfounded rumours and show themselves willing as loyal citizens to aid the Government.

The first military force raised was the Dumfriesshire Fencible Cavalry. On the 23rd April, 1794, the proprietors of Dumfriesshire agreed to raise two troops of Fencible Cavalry, to be maintained partly by subscription and partly by Government. In the *Dumfries Weekly Journal* of various dates subsequent to that of the meeting there is this advertisement:—"Wanted, for the Dumfriesshire Fencible Cavalry, a hundred to a hundred and twenty horses. Those who are willing to contract for any number of these may apply to David Staig, provost, who will show a pattern horse. The horses are to be from 14½ hands to 15 hands 4 inches. From five years complete to seven years off —dark bays, browns, blacks, or chesnuts." In 1795 both troops were augmented to consist of 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, and 71 privates. Michael Stewart Maxwell, yr. of Springkell, commanded one troop, and was Major-Commandant. The other troop was commanded by Sir Robert Grierson. These troops were stationed for a time in Dumfries and afterwards in Yorkshire, and subsequently served in Ireland in suppressing the rebellion. They were reduced in 1800, when the Commanding Officer received a letter from the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland expressing approbation of their services. The Commissioners of Supply, at a meeting held on 20th December, 1800, recorded their thanks to Colonel Maxwell, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Dumfries Fencible Cavalry for the honour they had done to the County during the period of its

Digitized by Google

service, and particularly for the gallantry shown in the suppression of the late rebellion in Ireland, and for the very spirited offer made by the regiment to extend their service to any part of the world where His Majesty may choose to send them.

On the 13th December, 1794, a meeting of the freeholders, Justices of the Peace, and landowners of the County was held to consider what was necessary for the defence of the County. It was called by the Lord-Lieutenant and his deputies, to whom belonged the duty of superintending preparations of this kind. It was attended by 79 gentlemen, of whose descendants, as far as I can ascertain, only 14 now hold property in this County. Apologies for absence were sent by 20 gentlemen, of whose descendants there are now 6 in this County.

In the absence of the Duke of Queensberry, the Lord-Lieutenant, the Duke of Buccleuch was called on to preside. The resolutions proposed were as follows:—

1. That, in the present state of this country, it is highly expedient and proper for us to come forward and avow our loyalty and attachment to the person and Government of His Majesty, our abhorrence of all attempts to disturb the internal peace of the country, and our firm determination to support its law and constitution, as the sources of that genuine liberty and unexampled prosperity which all ranks of the people in it have so long enjoyed.

2. That we will cheerfully unite in supporting the Civil Magistrate, and in making every loyal and constitutional exertion to suppress internal tumult or sedition, and to repel the invasion of our foreign enemies.

3. And that, for the promotion and accomplishment of these important purposes, we will heartily co-operate with the Lord-Lieutenant of the County and his deputies in whatever measure may, according to circumstances, be thought proper to adopt.

A Committee of ten were afterwards appointed to assist the Deputy-Lieutenants.

Early in 1795 the inhabitants of Dumfries raised a Volunteer corps. We transcribe below the principal portion of a curious document:—

Offer of Service, by certain Loyal Inhabitants of the Town of Dumfries, and Rules, Regulations, and Bye-Laws framed for their Government in a Military Capacity.

We the subscribers, all inhabitants of the burgh and neighbourhood of Dumfries, within the county of Dumfries, do hereby declare our sincere attachment to the person and government of His Majesty King George the Third; our respect for the happy constitution of Great Britain; and our

Digitized by Google

firm resolution, on every occasion, to protect the lives and properties of ourselves and our fellow subjects from every attempt of the ambitious and turbulent who threaten to overturn the laws of our country, and who, by anarchy, sedition, and bloodshed may endeavour to destroy the sacred bonds of society; and, as we are of opinion that the only way we can obtain a speedy and honourable peace is by Government vigorously carrying on the present war, humbly submit the following proposals to His Majesty for the purpose of forming ourselves into a volunteer corps, in order to support the internal peace and good order of the town, as well as to give energy to the measures of Government, to wit.

I. That we shall form ourselves into a corps, consisting of two companies of infantry, not exceeding fifty men each, including commissioned and non-commissioned officers, to serve under the Lord-Lieutenant for the county of Dumfries, or his Deputy for this district, during the present war, without pay, and find our own clothing.

II. That each person enrolling himself into the said corps shall be approved of by the Lord-Lieutenant of the county or his Deputy, and shall take the oath of allegiance.

III. That each company shall have a captain and two subalterns, and the whole commanded by a Major-Commandant.

IV. That the officers shall have temporary rank from the King.

V. That the corps shall be allowed to choose their own officers, who are to be approved of by the Lord-Lieutenant or his Deputy.

VI. That the corps shall not be obliged to march more than five miles from the town of Dumfries.

VII. That Government shall furnish arms, accoutrements, pikes, and drums, and pay one fifer, one drummer, and one drill sergeant for each company; and the corps shall return their arms and accoutrements when demanded.

VIII. That the members of the said corps engage to serve as aforesaid only when within the burgh or neighbourhood of Dumfries, and called on in aid of a civil magistrate, for the preventing or suppressing of riot, tumult, or disorder.

IX. That the corps shall choose the commissioned officers as aforesaid by ballot; and the non-commissioned officers shall be chosen in the same manner by their respective companies.

X. That the corps shall turn out for the purpose of discipline as often as may appear necessary to the commanding officer; and shall, when drawn up under arms, observe the most profound silence, pay all due respect to their officers, and implicitly obey orders without reply.

XI. That all persons wishing admission into this corps shall make application to the secretary, who shall mention such application before the committee of management, a majority of whom shall have power to admit; and upon any offence or impropriety of conduct committed by any of the members of this associatiou, and a complaint thereof made to the said committee, and a proof of such offence or impropriety brought, the said majority shall have it in their power to pass censure, or even to expel from the corps.

Digitized by Google

XII. That the corps request to be allowed to assume the name of "The Royal Dumfries Volunteers;" and, for their uniform, to wear a blue coat half lapelled with red cape and cuffs, and gilt buttons, with the letters R.D.V. engraved on them; a plain, white Cassimere vest, with small gilt buttons; white trousers, made of Russia tweeling, tied at the ankle; white stockings; a black velvet stock; hair to be worn short, or turned up behind; a round hat turned up on the left side, with a gilt button, a cockade, and a black feather; their shoes to be tied with a black ribbon; and the only distinction between the officers and privates, in point of dress, is that the Major Commandant and two Captains are to wear each two epaulets, and the other commissioned officers one.

Among those who were enrolled in the Royal Dumfries Volunteers was Robert Burns. The poet did service by the pen as well as the sword, and the well-known poem, "Doth Haughty Gaul," expressed the feeling of the loyal inhabitants. On the 21st April, 1795, the letter was received accepting their offer, and the Volunteers were afterwards duly enrolled. The officers were A. S. De Peyster, Major-Commandant; John Hamilton and John Ferguson, Captains; David Newall and Wellwood Maxwell, Lieuts.; Francis Shortt and Thomas White, Second Lieuts. On the King's birthday following, June 4th, colours were presented to the Volunteers in Queensberry Square by Mrs De Peyster, wife of the Colonel, who was attended by eighteen ladies. Dr Burnside consecrated the colours. Mrs De Peyster when presenting the colours, said:—"I beg leave to observe that our device is St. Michael, the tutelary Saint of the town, and as that Saint is here portrayed trampling the serpent under his foot, so the R.D.V. will, in support of the civil power, trample on all who shall offer to disturb the peace and good order of this town and its neighbourhood, and shall dare to raise their hands against the King and constitution." Colonel De Peyster and Dr Burnside both made speeches. The Grant Regiment of Fencibles, which were then quartered in Dumfries, were present at the ceremony. The Volunteers afterwards dined together in the King's Arms, and at six o'clock they went with the Magistracy to the Court-house to drink the King's health. What was thus done in Dumfries was probably done in other parts of Dumfriesshire, but of this I have not been able to find any record. In 1797 the Government appear to have been seriously alarmed by the prospect of an invasion, and early that year a communication was made to the Deputy-Lieutenants of Dumfriesshire by the Lord-Lieutenant asking them to suggest what measures should

Digitized by Google

be taken for the defence of the County. A letter was also sent from the Home Secretary asking them to ascertain the amount of live and dead stock in the parishes within ten or twelve miles from the sea, and to consider the methods by which such could be removed inland in the event of an invasion. The Deputy-Lieutenants, in reply, wrote to the Duke of Queensberry in regard to the suggestion made by the Home Secretary, and stated that, "with great submission, we beg here to state it as our opinion to your grace that we think such a measure at present unnecessary, because from the situation of the Firth on the Border of this country the navigation is so very difficult and the water so shallow that no vessels of force or any considerable burden can possibly approach this county. In the next place, we are really apprehensive that taking such an account would be productive of dangerous consequences, and we are unwilling to increase the alarm which has already been given to credit and paper currency, but should the measure directed by the Duke of Portland afterwards seem necessary, it shall be instantly carried into effect." The Deputy-Lieutenants further stated that in their opinion the best method of defence would be the raising of volunteer corps on a similar plan to the one adopted in the Lothians and other counties, and in order to carry this proposal into effect they suggested a great County meeting. A meeting of this kind was held on March 4th, 1797, and was attended by 85 gentlemen, of whom 16 are still represented in the list of Dumfriesshire landowners. The meeting proposed that all between 15 and 60 years of age should be enrolled, clothed, and trained to arms under the authority and terms of the Volunteer Act. They also desired to express their confidence in the credit of the banks, and ordered that it should be known that they were willing to receive in payment the notes of the banks. 1000 copies of the resolutions of the meeting, with declarations appended as to the terms of service, and 1000 copies of a certificate to be given to the volunteers, were afterwards printed, and parcels of these were sent to the Deputy-Lieutenants who had charge of the nine districts into which the County had been divided for the purpose of military administration by the Deputy-Lieutenants.

These preparations for a further enrolment of volunteers appear to have been interrupted or abandoned by the necessity of carry-

Digitized by Google

ing into effect an Act which the Government passed in July of the same year for raising by ballot 6000 militia in Scotland. This Act provided that this force should be raised in quotas from the different counties, and that these should be provided by a ballot taken in every parish from the lists of men between the ages of 18 and 23. Those exempted were those serving in the regular army or on half-pay, professors, clergymen, schoolmasters, articled clerks, apprentices, sailors, and all who had two children born in wedlock. The number liable to serve in Dumfriesshire was 1094, and the number called on to serve was 247. The carrying out of the Militia Act was everywhere unpopular. The people said that 20,000 Volunteers had been raised, and large sums given in voluntary subscriptions, and it was insinuated that the limitation in regard to being called to serve only in Scotland would be departed from when the force was embodied. In Dumfriesshire the dissatisfaction was great. On the 27th Aug., 1797, the Duke of Buccleuch wrote to the Home Secretary from Langholm :—

I came here on Friday, the 18th, hoping to have some repose after many months' attention to my duty as Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Mid-Lothian. When I left Dalkeith I had no idea the execution of the Militia Act would cause any disturbance in our county. If I could have foreseen it, I would have remained at my post. On Sunday, the 20th, I was informed that some persons had pulled down the lists from the church doors in the parish of Canonbie, and that the parish registers were to be burned the next day. I immediately on Monday got together about thirty of the heads of families in the School-house to endeavour, if possible, to prevent any further violence. I was informed that about 300 young men had, on the night of Sunday or early on Monday, taken by force the books from the schoolmaster's house. I said everything I could to bring them back to a sense of their duty. At the same time, I told them I was resolved to bring to justice the rioters. Those present were certainly not concerned, being mostly heads of families, and well known to me. Everything has been quiet there since. But in Annandale the mob has been most outrageous, insulted Deputy-Lieutenants, drove them from their meetings, exacted oaths and promises that they will not proceed further in this business—in short, they have been guilty of open rebellion. The constables dare not appear, and the gentlemen of the county dare not show their faces in the towns and villages. God knows how this will end. Thank God all my tenants are quiet, well-affected people, and attached to my family. I have this moment received an express from the Advocate wishing I would come to Edinburgh immediately. I shall therefore go to Fleurs on my way to know how matters stand in that county. Rutherford has been almost killed ; Mark Pringle and the other Deputies driven out

Digitized by Google

of the town of Selkirk by a mob from Galashiels and Melrose, and some country people, with some of the people of the place. You will have heard what has been going on in other places better than I can inform you. I have been too much taken up with what has passed in this neighbourhood to attend to the reports from other quarters. Are such people to be trusted with arms after what has passed? That is for Government to determine. Examples, however, must be made of those who have so openly and outrageously broken the law of the country, insulted and ill-used magistrates in the discharge of their duty, and set at defiance all authority. I leave the Duchess of Buccleuch and daughters in the hands of my tenants. Where can they be better; certainly not further north; perhaps further south would be better at this moment. They can from this place soon pass over the Borders.

In a letter written five days later the Duke says—

I have left the Duchess and family at Langholm in the safe custody of my tenants, who swear they will spill the last drop of their blood rather than that she or the family should receive insult or injury during their residence among them. This was communicated to the Duchess upon my leaving Langholm.

On the 25th August there was a riot in Dumfries, and the windows of the School-house broken. On the 1st September Mr David Staig, D.L., then Provost of Dumfries, wrote a letter from Dumfries to the Duke of Queensberry, the Lieutenant of Dumfriesshire, which was forwarded by him to the Home Secretary:—

The opposition to the Militia Bill seems general throughout Scotland, and nowhere more than in this part of the country. There is not a Deputy-Lieutenant that has not been threatened with instant destruction. Sir Wm. Maxwell, Colonel Dirom, and Mr Graham of Mossknowe (Deputies) had a meeting the other day in their districts, and were most grossly insulted by an enraged mob, and before they were allowed to depart were forced to sign an obligation on stamped paper that they would proceed no further with their business. Sir Robert Grierson and Mr Dalziell of Glenæ, Deputies, were forced to write similar obligations to save their lives and property. Mr Greig, a Deputy-Lieutenant at Moffat, was deforced, and his papers taken from him; but being supported by a party of dragoons in another parish yesterday, an attack was made upon them by a riotous mob, and a good deal of blood was shed, but I have not heard that any lives were lost.

These disturbances caused delay in carrying out the provisions of the Militia Act, and a new Act had to be passed extending the time when the ballot was to take place. On the 4th May, 1798, at a meeting of the Court of Lieutenancy, presided over by the Earl of Dalkeith, and attended by 14 Deputy-Lieutenants, of

Digitized by Google

whom 6 are still represented by their descendants among the landlords of Dumfries, the date of the ballot was fixed for the 13 districts of the County, and the Deputy-Lieutenants of each district were directed to superintend the same. It was also agreed that farmers and farmers' sons should be recommended to join one or other of the Yeomanry troops to be established in the County, and each Deputy-Lieutenant was enjoined to establish, if possible, at least one Volunteer Company in his district. The Dumfries Militia were embodied in June, 1798, and along with the Militia of Peebles, Selkirk, Roxburgh, Kirkcudbright, and Wigtown they formed what was known as the Dumfries Regiment of Militia, or No. 4 of the Militia of North Britain, and they remained embodied till the peace of Amiens in 1802. The minutes of the Courts of Lieutenancy contain a complete list of the 247 men who were balloted to serve, with the parishes to which they belonged.

In most cases the men either provided substitutes or paid the penalty of £10, which was used by the commanding officer to provide bounties for men to supply vacancies. In 1799 a new Act was passed which required the Court of Lieutenancy to prepare a list of the men in every parish between the age of 19 and 30. After much trouble and the hearing of many appeals this list was made up. It extends over 100 pages of the minute book of the Court of Lieutenancy, and contains the names of 2424 men, all arranged according to their parishes. In 1798 subscriptions were sent from the inhabitants to aid the Government in providing for the defence of the country. The town and parish of Dumfries gave £1622 19s 10d; Kirkmahoe, £119 1s 6d; Holywood, £185 17s; Lochmaben, £20 17s 10d; Glencairn, £101 12s; and Moffat, £24 6s. The subscription lists show that these sums were subscribed by all ranks of the people.

After long negotiations in March, 1802, the Peace of Amiens was signed. In April of the same year the Dumfriesshire Militia were disembodied, and it may be supposed that the Volunteer corps also ceased to exist. The conduct of Napoleon Bonaparte soon made it plain that this peace could not long be maintained, and in May, 1803, preparations at the French naval ports hastened a declaration of war. During that year and the following year an invasion by Napoleon seemed imminent, and preparations for resistance were carried on with great activity. It is said that

Digitized by Google

at this period 300,000 Volunteers were enrolled. We can show that Dumfriesshire was not lukewarm in the cause. After war was again declared, military preparations were made under new Acts of Parliament. The Militia Ballot was made to embrace men between 18 and 45, and of those liable to serve there were reported to be in Dumfriesshire 5597. The quota balloted for was 284. The men were assembled on April 5th, 1803. There is no evidence that on this occasion there was any discontent similar to that which existed at the embodiment of the Militia in 1797. In nearly every case the men actually enrolled were substitutes. The penalty for not serving or not procuring a substitute was £10, but a little later (26th May) in the same year it was raised to £15. On the 15th July, 1803, there was a special meeting of the Court of Lieutenancy, when such resolutions were passed as became what is termed in the minute "a crisis when the empire is threatened with destruction, its existence as a State menaced with annihilation, and its inhabitants at large held out as objects of general pillage and confiscation." It was agreed that the whole inhabitants between fifteen and sixty years of age, and any healthy men who were above that age, should be invited to meet the Deputy-Lieutenants of the districts in their respective parish churches, and should be asked in what manner it is their intention to act should their country be invaded—whether (1) by engaging to assemble in arms either mounted or on foot in the event of invasion; (2) by engaging to serve as pioneers; (3) by engaging to serve in the removal of live stock; (4) by engaging to provide carts, horses, and drivers for the removal of dead stock or the transport of military stores, provisions, or troops; (5) by engaging to furnish Government for its armies with flour and bread. It was also agreed to intimate to the inhabitants that in the event of its being necessary all live stock were to be driven inland—live stock in the maritime parishes and towns of Annandale and Eskdale to the upper districts of Eskdale and those adjoining in Selkirk; and the live stock from the maritime and town parishes of Nithsdale to the districts connected with the source of the Cairn, as well within the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright as in the County of Dumfries.

Among other resolutions the meeting resolved "that the inhabitants be informed that however formidable and numerous

Digitized by Google

the forces by sea and land may be by which the First Consul of France now intends to invade our island, that nevertheless his forces by sea are neither so numerous nor so formidable as those which on so many occasions during the late war were beaten and destroyed by the fleets of Britain; that his land forces are no other than such as, although superior in number, our countrymen so recently encountered and subdued on the plains of Egypt; and that this same First Consul of France is no other than that General Bonaparte who at the head of a numerous army so long besieged in vain a handful of British troops shut up within the mud walls of Acre, from before which weak and unfinished post he at length retired defeated, disgraced, and covered with infamy. That the people be desired constantly to keep in mind that history affords no example where the inhabitants of a country united and faithful to each other were ever conquered by a foreign enemy." One response to this was the following letter from Mr Gibson, of the King's Arms Hotel, Dumfries, which gives a glimpse of the resources of that posting establishment in July, 1803:—

I think it incumbent on me at this momentous period to contribute my sum for my King and country. I beg leave to offer for conveying stock and property of any kind 17 horses, 5 chaises, 3 carts, and drivers for the same.

The parish of Ruthwell promised to furnish ninety volunteers, seventy carts and horses, and fifty drivers. The manager of the mines at Wanlockhead wrote to the Lord-Lieutenant as follows—

Wanlockhead, 1st August, 1803.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a signed list of 110 miners, their two overseers, and myself, as manager of the Wanlockhead mines, who offer their services as a corps of Volunteer Pioneers, providing ourselves with pioneering and entrenching tools, and be ready to march, in case of invasion, with ten days' provisions. I have also to enclose a return of pioneering tools fit for service. The Mining Company of Wanlockhead authorises me to offer for the general service of the country whatever gunpowder they may have in store for blasting the mines, which on an average will be about 800 lbs. weight, and a proportionable quantity of musket balls, on being provided with Government patent moulds for casting them. The miners are ready to be trained to whatever exercise is thought necessary—the only difficulty is to find a tolerably flat piece of ground within six miles of the mines proper to exercise even a company of fifty men. But that a company of pioneers (which as miners we are well adapted to), should be able to march without confusion, this may be

Digitized by Google

thought all that is necessary. Wanlockhead is on the height of the County, between the east and the west coast, 47 miles south-west of Edinburgh, and about 30 miles north-east of Dumfries.—I have the honour to remain, my lord, your Lordship's obedient servant,

GILBERT LAING.

The most memorable response to this appeal was a letter from Mr Miller of Dalswinton, which was read at a meeting of the Court of Lieutenancy held on the 24th August, 1803.

Dalswinton, 24th August, 1803.

Dear Sir,—Having expended in a long series of hazardous experiments ten thousand guineas with a view to benefit mankind, I am now perhaps not so rich as I was, but I am more careful of what I have, and am a great economist. As such, I wish to insure my property, my share in the British Constitution, my family, myself, and my religion against the French invasion. As a premium, I offer to clothe and arm with pikes 100 men, to be raised in this and any of the neighbouring parishes, and to furnish them with three light brass field pieces ready for service. This way of arming I consider as superior for infantry either for attack or defence to that now in use; but as to this Government must determine. I am too old and infirm to march with these men, but I will desire my eldest son to do so. He was ten years a soldier in the foot and horse service. In case of an invasion, I will be ready to furnish when requested 26 horses, 16 carts, and 16 drivers, and Government may command all my crops of hay, straw, and grain, which I estimate at 16,700 stones of hay, 1400 bushels of peas, 3000 bushels of oats, and 3080 bushels of barley. You will please to transmit my offer to the Lord-Lieutenant of the County. If the French are rash enough to land on our shores, they will find to their cost that riches acquired by useful and honourable means have not the effect to enervate a people. On the contrary, riches so obtained are a sure proof of a happy constitution and a mild government, to which all wise, good men must necessarily be attached.—I am, ever yours, &c.,

P. MILLER.

To David Staig, Esq.,
Deputy-Lieutenant, Dumfries.

On the 31st August, the Deputy-Lieutenant proposed a scheme for a ballot of 213 men, being the quota of the Army of Reserve falling on the County of Dumfries. The total number liable to serve was stated to be 4803. The penalty for failure to appear in this levy was £20. In every case either a substitute was found, or the money was paid. On the 23rd November, 1803, the condition of this quota was reported as follows:—With the 26th Regiment, 104; with the 5th Battalion of Reserve, 30; with Captain Douglas at Dumfries, 3; volunteered for general service, 7; number still required to complete complement, 69—total, 213.

Digitized by Google

In the *Dumfries Weekly Journal* of various dates about this period there are records of enthusiastic meetings in the different parishes, at which the inhabitants cheerfully offered to act as Volunteers. On the 21st September, 1803, it was reported at the meeting of Deputy-Lieutenants that 3480 men had offered to serve as volunteers, or double the number limited by Government. The meeting then fixed the establishment of volunteers at 1704, as restricted by the official communication. This did not include 52 men from Eskdale, who offered to serve on horseback; the 110 men from Wanlockhead who were willing to serve as pioneers; a company of artillery in Dumfries, which numbered 50, and a troop of Royal Dumfries Yeomanry, numbering 3 officers, 3 non-commissioned officers, and 84 privates. Dumfries was to furnish three companies, with 80 rank and file each. Annan two companies of the same strength, and Kirkmahoe, Tinwald, and Kirkmichael one also of 80 rank and file. The following were to have a company with 60 rank and file:—Johnstone and Wamphray; Hutton and Applegarth; Lochmaben; Dryfesdale and St. Mungo; Dunscore and Holywood; Sanquhar; Kirkconnel; Durisdeer and Penpont; Glencairn; Morton and Closeburn; Tynron and Keir; Caerlaverock and Ruthwell; Cummertrees and Dalton; Westerkirk, Ewes, and Eskdalemuir; Langholm and Canonbie; Graitney, Dornock, Kirkpatrick-Fleming, and Half-Morton; Torthorwald and Mouswald. The selection was made beginning with the youngest men and men unmarried, or men without children. Those whose service could not be accepted owing to the Government limitation were to be allowed to serve provided they furnished their own clothing and arms, and agreed to serve without pay. The Volunteer Infantry was divided into three battalions—the Dumfries and Annan Battalion, commanded by Col. De Peyster; the Nithsdale Battalion, commanded by Col. Wight; and the Eskdale Battalion, commanded by Col. Douglas. By an Act passed on 27th July, 1803, the Government had power conferred on them to make a levy *en masse* of the male population between 17 and 55 years of age, and for this purpose the Lords Lieutenants were required to make out lists of the men in the counties under three classes—(1) those who were 17 years of age and under 30 who were unmarried or had no children under ten; (2) those who were 30 years of age and under 50 who were similarly situated as regards family circumstances; (3) those who

Digitized by Google

were from 17 to 30 years of age who were or had been married, and had not more than two children under ten years of age. The number of volunteers in Dumfriesshire enrolled made the levy *en masse* unnecessary, but the lists were carefully made out. They were as follows:—Number in first-class effective, 3442; number in second class effective, 677; number in third class effective, 842; number in fourth class effective, 3409. The number of clergy, licensed teachers, medical men, and constables, who were all to be exempt from this levy, was returned at 43, evidently a very defective return, and the number of infirm at 408. On 6th September, 1803, the county gentlemen assessed the county for £1190, to give aid to the volunteers as to clothing. On 10th October the ministers of Dumfries handed to Col. De Peyster £18 7s 6d, being a contribution from the Presbytery towards the expense of the volunteers. The inhabitants of Dumfries subscribed £305 13s 6d. On November 12th colours were presented to the Volunteers of Dumfries by Col. De Peyster, who addressed them "in a most eloquent, impressive, and loyal speech." The Rev. Dr Burnside consecrated the colours. He also addressed the men, and it is recorded that he said—"If this corps should ever meet in 'dread array' in defence of their native soil the wretched slaves of the tyrant usurper of the throne of the Bourbons we are proud to predict that their veteran commander will lead them to glory and victory, and that these colours will be found a lasting memorial of the spirit and patriotism of this town." The expectations of the people may be gathered from this extract from the *Dumfries Weekly Journal* of 1st November, 1803: "Every day we are taught from all quarters that the awful day approaches. The magnitude of the preparations that have been made against us, and the malignity of the designs proposed to be effected by these preparations, are such that if there be in the bosom of any one amongst us any determination other than to conquer or to perish in resisting these designs and these preparations, the person who harbours such a sentiment is unworthy of the name of Briton." The Volunteer corps were not long left without instructions, which showed that serious work might be expected.

On 3d November, 1803, instructions were laid before a meeting of Deputy-Lieutenants, with respect to the movements of the Volunteers in case of the appearance of the enemy. In the

Digitized by Google

event of an alarm from the Firth of Forth, the Annandale and Eskdale Battalion was to assemble at Moffat, and march to Edinburgh by way of Linton ; the Nithsdale Battalion was to assemble at Sanquhar, and march to Edinburgh by way of Muirkirk ; and the Dumfries and Annan Battalion, under Colonal De Peyster, was to assemble at Thornhill, and march from thence by Leadhills and Biggar ; and the whole force was ordered to unite at Linton, and proceed from thence in a body to Edinburgh. In the event of an alarm from Cumberland or Galloway, the Annandale and Eskdale Battalion was to assemble at Ecclefechan ; the Nithsdale and also the Annan and Dumfries Battalions at Dumfries. And in the event of the alarm coming from Cumberland, the two last were to assemble at Annan. To provide for the maintenance of order in the event of the Volunteers being called out to repel an invasion companies of spearmen were enrolled. Their duties were to be—"In the absence of the Volunteers, to act with vigour in supporting the civil magistrates, protecting property and preserving the peace by quelling tumults or riots, apprehending disorderly persons, and taking such other measures as may be deemed necessary for that purpose. And in the event that prisoners of war shall be marched into and conveyed through this county, such companies shall guard them from parish to parish." Each company was to be commanded by a respectable person, either a landholder or a farmer of character, and under him one or more subalterns and one or more persons in the quality of sergeants. The number of this force in the county was a thousand. The total number of men under arms in the county at this period must have been abont 3000. In addition to this force, during the whole period of the French war a Regiment of Fencibles or Militia was quartered in Dumfries, and sometimes also a Cavalry Corps. Another sign of preparation for active service was the appointing (18th December, 1803) of the places where beacons were to be erected to assemble the Volunteers when intelligence was received of the landing of the enemy. The Beacons in Dumfriesshire were the Hill of Repentance, the Barhill of Tinwald, the Wardlawhill of Caerlaverock, Lagg or Blackwoodhill in the parishes of Dunscore and Keir. It was ordered that a temporary hut should be erected beside each beacon, and that an attendant should be there both by day and by night. Tar barrels and other combustibles were to be pro-

Digitized by Google

vided, but in the day time the signal was to be given by lighting wet straw or other such material as would yield most smoke. On 24th October, 1804, a return was ordered of the number of carts, carriages, and horses which had either been offered voluntarily or were procurable on short notice in the event of a large body of troops being ordered to march through the country. Unfortunately this return has not been recorded. The league which Pitt made among the Continental Powers against Napoleon greatly increased the difficulties of concentration of the French Army for an invasion of England, and the great victory of Lord Nelson at Trafalgar, in October, 1805, so shattered the power of the French navy that for a time the great fear of an invasion passed away. The Militia after this date were reduced in numbers; the constant drilling of Volunteers was less ardently carried out; and the beacons had no longer to be watched by night and day.

There is evidence in the minutes of the Dumfriesshire Court of Lieutenancy that the discipline of the Volunteers of this county was not always what could have been desired. It is probable that the same happened elsewhere, and it is conjectured that this led the Government to pass a measure known as the Local Militia Act, which provided a force subject to more stringent rules. This Act, which was passed in 1808, provided that each county should raise a force called Local Militia, six times as numerous as the quota which it had to provide for the regular militia. They were liable to be called up for training twenty-eight days in each year, but were not to be permanently embodied or marched beyond their own county unless in case of an invasion, when they might be ordered anywhere within the United Kingdom. The Volunteers were allowed to transfer their services to the new force, and in that case were each to receive a bounty of £2 2s. Any deficiencies after the transfer of Volunteers were to be filled by a ballot among the men between eighteen and thirty years of age. In this case service was compulsory, and neither by the payment of a penalty nor the providing of a substitute could any one claim exemption. The Dumfriesshire Volunteers appear to have bodily transferred their services to the Local Militia. The Local Militia, like the Volunteers, was formed into three regiments—Dumfries and Annan, with 410 men; the Nithsdale, with 610; and the Annandale, with 600

Digitized by Google

men. Each parish was required to provide a certain number o men, and as it happened when the Volunteers were transferred that some parishes had more representatives than were required and others had too few, a scheme was made out by which the supernumeraries were appropriated to the parishes where deficiencies existed. Subsequently the regiments were recruited either by voluntary enrolment or by conscription. There is evidence that annually or less frequently they were called out for twenty-eight days' service. Correspondence more than once ensued, and at last a law suit was carried on as to their right to drill on the Kingholm Merse. At length the long time of suspense came to an end, and in the minutes of the Court of Lieutenancy of 26th July, 1814, there is mention of a letter from the Lord-Lieutenant, enclosing a letter to His Grace from Lord Sidmouth, Secretary of State, transmitting a resolution of the House of Lords expressing the thanks of that House to the several corps of Local Militia, of Yeomanry, and of Cavalry and Infantry which had been formed in Great Britain and Ireland during the course of the war, and requesting that the Lord-Lieutenant will make the necessary communication of the same to the different corps of the County of Dumfries. In 1814 the Militia were disembodied, not to be again embodied till the time of the Crimean War. In 1814 the Volunteers also ceased to serve, and no similar force came into existence till 1859, when the foolish speeches of certain French colonels called to arms the great citizen force which year after year is becoming more and more efficient.

3rd April, 1891.

Mr James Barbour, V.P., in the Chair.

Purchase.—Six volumes of the *Dumfries Weekly Journal.*

Donations. — The Report of Marlborough College Natural History Society, 1890; Transactions of the Edinburgh Geological Society, 1890; The Essex Naturalist, October and December, 1890; Annals and Transactions of the New York Academy of Sciences, 1889-90; Proceedings of the Rochester Academy of Science, 1889-90 (New York State); Four Geological Specimens, presented by Mr James Dairon; Specimens of Roses, by Mr J. Fingland.

Digitized by Google

Communications.

I. *The Lower Carboniferous System in Dumfriesshire.*

By Mr James Dairon, F.G.S.

It may be recollected that the last papers I read before this Society were upon the Silurian System, with its graptolites, so celebrated for their abundance, and also the beautiful state of preservation in which they are found around Moffat. Among the numerous places, both here and abroad, I have seen nowhere that can surpass Dob's Linn, in Dumfriesshire. I have thought it might be acceptable to make a change for the night to the carboniferous system. It is not very extensive in Dumfriesshire. Still there are a few places worthy of a visit of the geologist. The carboniferous system lies on the top of the old red sandstone or Devonian strata, but are known from the vast mass of vegetable matter which occurs in the lower members of the carboniferous system. It is to the fact that the chief quantity of the solid element being carbon that the system takes it name, such a mass which has formed beds of coal. Coal being only mineralised vegetation finds its entry into the mass of the bituminous or coal-formed shales, and gives many of the sandstones and limestones of this formation a carbonaceous well marked appearance. The system is generally divided into the three well-marked groups—the lower coal measures or carboniferous slates, the mountain limestone, and the millstone grit. The plants most characteristic of the group are—*Sphenopteris affinis, bifidi, S. lincaris, pecopteris, hetorophyllum, neuropteris loshii, calœmites, cannæformis, lepodostrobus variabilis* and *ornatus, lepidophyllum intermedium, stigmaria ficoides* and *stellata,* with *sigillaria pachyderma,* and *occulata* with *knorria* of various species, and *favularia.*

Lower Coal Measures or Carboniferous Slates.—This group is intended to combine all alternations of strata that lie between the old red sandstone and the mountain limestone. In some districts it is not so well developed. In others it attains a thickness of several thousand feet. In Scotland—in Fife and the Lothians—it has none of the slatey character, but consists principally of thick bedded white sandstone, dark bituminous shales frequently embedding bands of ironstone, thin seams of coal, and peculiar

Digitized by Google

strata, either of shell limestone, of argillacious limestone, thought from its fossils to be of fresh water or estuary origin. Unless in its fine white sandstone got in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, and sent over the country for building purposes, in its fine grained estuary and shell limestones (Burdiehouse and Burntisland), and in the greater profusion of its shells and fishes, the lower group, as developed in Scotland, differs little in appearance from the upper group. Hence the term lower coal measures generally applied to it in this country. If we look at the lower coal measures in the mass there cannot be a doubt that they were laid down under very different conditions from the old red sandstone beneath and the mountain limestone above. Both of these formations are truly marine, the yellow sandstones being filled with true oceanic fishes, and the mountain limestone crowded with marine shells and corals. The lower coal measures, on the contrary, have more of a fresh water than of a salt water aspect. Coralloid corals are seldom obtained in their strata; their shells are mostly esturine; their plants seem to have grown and flourished in marshes and delta jungles, and many of their fishes are large and of a saurial description. Under these circumstances, we may be quite safe in regarding it as a separate group. As a whole, the lower coal group in Scotland is eminently characterised by fresh water or estuary remains, though in several parts we may find seams of limestone and ironstone occur frequently, containing *encrinal joints*, *retipora*, *palæchinas*, *murchisonia*, and others; thus showing that during the laying down of the strata there were various alternations of marine and fresh water conditions. The plants of this group are much the same as those already before described. Of the animal remains the most characteristic are most minute crustaceous *Cypris*, *Scoto-burdigatensis*, and *Hibbertii*, which abound in all the limestones and shales. There are, however, frequent inter-stratifications of igneous rock and precipitated showers of volcanic ash, as if the seas and esturies of deposit had also been the seats of submarine volcanoes and craters of eruption. The iron which impregnated the waters of the old red period, and coloured with rusty red the whole of that system, now appear in the segregated form of thin layers and seams of ironstone. At this point I think we might say a few words on some of the Dumfriesshire limestone quarries, which I visited some time ago, then possessed by the late Mr

Digitized by Google

Ferguson of Donkin, Kirtlebridge, and extensively wrought by him then. A few minutes takes us to the quarry, and the same time to where the lime stone is burnt, and at the same spot are some great heaps of unburnt limestone, and from these heaps I got some very fine specimens of corals, which were easily polished by rubbing on a piece of sandstone and water, then with water of Ayr stone to a fine surface. If water is then used, and if it is finished off with putty powder made up into a paste, and rubbed up a with piece of flannel, it will be very pretty. When walking over the quarry there are some good sections to be seen there, and we should notice the strike and lie of the strata. Some of the quarrymen may have some specimens laid past, and should be asked. Among the fossils which are obtained in this locality are *Orthoccritite* of a large size, also *actinoceres* of great size, about 8 inches diameter at top, running to a point, some of them 6 and 7 feet long. The cottagers at Blacketridge make gate posts of them. Bivalve shells are *Productus giganteum*, *Productus semireticulatus*, and others, *Spirifer cuomphalus*, *Bellerophon*, and many more, but they are difficult to take out of the hard limestone, and require a chisel and hammer. Fishes range through the system, but are most abundant in the limestone and lower measures. The fin spines of *gyracanthsus* are also in other parts of the system, some 20 inches long. Some of the teeth of the large fishes are got 5-7 inches long. We also find a common fossil in the shales of the mountain limestone and coal measures, as we find in the secondary formations the *coprolite* or fossil excrement of fishes and saurians, in which are frequently found scales and pieces of shells and other remains of ancient life. In the coal measures those *coprolites* are no doubt those of fishes, and in many parts are so abundant as to make up the greater part of the stratum.

After having visited the quarries previously mentioned it would be well to visit Blacketridge Quarry. *Lithostrotion irregulare* (Philips), a rare coral, *L. junceum* (Ure), and many others are got at this quarry. It is just about two miles from Donkin lime kilns. After the limestone has been examined for a specimen of the coral on the top of the limestone collected for burning, we now get on to the main road. After passing to the other side we come to a road at right angles, where there are a number of cottages, and there always are a few fossils lying at

Digitized by Google

some of the windows, such as *Productus giganteum* and some others belonging to this formation—viz., the lower carboniferous.

II. *Notes on the Genus Rosa in Nithsdale.*

By Mr James Fingland.

A botanist of experience on a casual visit a few years ago to the neighbourhood of Sanquhar remarked that he had never seen a district so luxuriant in wild roses, and apparently so rich in variety of forms. Since then the result of examination of our local roses, though still imperfect, fully proves the truth of the observation which the visitor made. Only what applies to Sanquhar district still further applies to a large portion of Nithsdale. From below Auldgirth, following the river upwards on the alluvial soil and gravel beds, extending a considerable breadth in some parts, and on the banks and wooded sides of the more confined channel of the river in its higher reaches, the wild roses grow in great abundance, and afford ample opportunity for study. In early summer we admire the pure and delicate tints of the flowers, and in the first autumnal months we are no less attracted with the rich colouring of the hips or choups and the beautiful and varied foliage of the bushes, which then attains its highest development on the new and barren shoots of the year.

Dr Anstruther Davidson in his last communication to the Society on local botany, reported the finding of eleven varieties of *Rosa canina*. We are much indebted to him for this excellent introduction to them. Since then, from a collection which he made before leaving Sanquhar, some additional forms have to be recorded. And now, between us, other six varieties and three sub-forms are fresh records for Nithsdale. *Pruinosa, incana, Kosinciana* and *uncinella* (Besser), from Sanquhar, with *andevagensis, Watsoni, Malmundariensis* (Lej.) and *platyphylla* (Rau.) from Thornhill. Of the 32 forms of *canina* given in the 8th edition of the "London Catalogue," 17 are now ascertained to occur in the district. So little has been done in this genus in the South of Scotland, at least so far as I am aware, that we have scarcely any means of making comparison with other districts. The Clydesdale Flora contains nine forms of *canina*. A more recent work, however, the "Flora of West Yorkshire," enumerates about twenty; these obtained from a

Digitized by Google

very extensive and carefully botanised area. It is perhaps too soon to speak definitely of the distribution of the roses in our district, but apparently the greater number are met with in the main valley of the Nith, and often many varieties I have observed grow together in a small area. They appear to thin out somewhat in the side valleys, and the fewer number reach the base of our higher hills. Although from this height some are found with *Rosa mollis*, notably *subcristata* and *dumalis* descending throughout the range to sea level. The study of roses is rendered more difficult and confusing from the occurrence of approximate and intermediate forms. I have to acknowledge invaluable help from Mr Bennett of Croydon, in naming specimens and for his kindness in sending a collection to Mr Baker, of Kew, for inspection. I append a full list of the *genus* as found in Nithsdale by Dr Davidson and myself, which will bring it up to date and facilitate further search. In it are included a few intermediate forms which may be found interesting, having had the best authority for their recognition.

LIST OF ROSÆ.

1. *Rosa spinosissima*, Linn.
2. „ *mollis*, Sm.
3. „ var. *cærulea*, Woods.
4. „ var. *pseudo-rubiginosa*, Lej.
5. „ *tomentosa*, Sm.
6. „ „ var. *subglobosa*, Sm.
7. „ „ var. *scabriuscula*.
8. „ *rubiginosa* (an escape ?)
9. „ *canina*, var. *lutetiana*, Leman.
10. „ „ „ *dumalis*, Beckst.
11. „ „ „ „ f. *Malmundariensis*, Lej.
12. „ „ „ *urbica*, Leman.
13. „ „ „ „ f. *platyphylla*, Rau.
14. „ „ „ *arvatica*, Baker.
15. „ „ „ *dumetorum*, Thuill
16. „ „ „ „ f. *uncinella*, Besser.
17. „ „ „ *pruinosa*, Baker.
18. „ „ „ *incana*, Woods.
19. „ „ „ *tomentella*, Leman.
20. „ „ „ *andevagensis*, Bast.
21. „ „ „ *verticillacantha*, Merat.

Digitized by Google

22. *Rosa canina*, var. *Kosinciana*, Besser.
23. „ „ „ *decipiens*, Dumort.
24. „ „ „ *glauca*, Vill.
25. „ „ „ *subcristata*, Baker.
26. „ „ „ *coriifolia*, Fries.
27. „ „ „ *Watsoni*, Baker.
28. „ „ „ *Borreri*, Woods.

INTERMEDIATES.

29. *Rosa canina*, form, *near vinacea*, Baker.
30. „ „ „ *nearing subcristata.*
31. „ „ „ *extreme subcristata, hispid pedicels.*
32. „ „ „ *near coriifolia.*
33. „ „ „ *verticillacantha*, with upright sepals.
34. „ „ „ *near Reuteri.*
35. „ „ „ *dumalis leaf* and *sphœrica fruit.*

III. *Annan in the Eighteenth Century.*

By Mr Frank Millar.

When the eighteenth century opened, Annan was not by any means in a flourishing state. It was no longer a place of military importance with a strong garrison, its fairs had ceased to attract visitors, and the trade of the district had been diverted into new channels, Lockerbie, Ecclefechan, Dalton, and Applegarth profiting at the expense of their once prosperous neighbour. The appearance of the town showed its insignificance. To the casual visitor the historic burgh seemed little better than an ordinary village of three or four hundred inhabitants. On each side of "the high town street" was an irregular row of stone-built dwelling houses, with dull little windows and thatched roofs. Every vestige of the ancient castle had disappeared, with the exception of the inscribed stone referred to in Pennant's "Tour in Scotland in 1769." The school-house, in which the children of the parish were instructed in English and Latin, was a wretched little building, with crumbling walls, situated in the gloomy churchyard. The tolbooth, where justice was dispensed by the provost and bailies, was new and unimposing, and a church less pleasing, from an æsthetic standpoint, than Annan kirk could not have been discovered in broad Scotland. There was danger in riding through the town, for the deep hollows and pits in the unpaved

Digitized by Google

street were many, and huge turf stacks encroached on the public way. More objectionable to the pedestrian than the piles of "divots" were the heaps of refuse, emitting odours not akin to those of "Araby the blest." If the sanitary condition of the place was unsatisfactory, the authorities could not justly be held responsible, as not infrequently they ordered cleansing operations and passed Acts forbidding the placing of "ashes," &c., on the street. On 31st October, 1717, they dealt comprehensively with the whole question of the improvement of the town.

"The said day they enacted and ordained that the hail middens with the turf and peat stacks be removed off the town streets, and the hollow places where the same stood or lay be filled up by ilk ane of the inhabitants to whom the same belonged, and the street be filled up before everyone's door to the middle of the street under the penalty of ten pounds money foresaid, to be paid by the transgressor in case of default. . . . The said day it was enacted and ordained that any that build within the burgh shall for hereafter always build the principal part of the building fronting to the forestreet of the burgh in a straight line, and that they plant timber for their yards in the terms of the Act of Parliament, and whoever does otherwise that his work be stopt by the Dean till he comply therewith."

The first improvement effected in Annan last century was the building of a bridge across "the drumlie river." The old ferry boat belonging to the burgh having become perilously rickety, the Magistrates and Council, in 1700, decreed its destruction, and instead of purchasing a new one they ambitiously commenced to build a bridge, hoping to be aided in their undertaking by the Marquis of Annandale, who had more than once rendered them financial assistance. Hampered in their operations by want of funds, they made slow progress, and at one time it seemed likely that the bridge would never be completed. On 3rd November, 1702, the Council finding that for half-a-year the men engaged in the work had received no wages, and considering that "the Marquis of Annandale his chamberlain, refused to clear and pay off what was resting to the said workmen," resolved to ask their Commissioner to Parliament to approach "my Lady Marquis of Annandale," begging her in her lord's absence to grant orders to satisfy the workmen, and offering any security available. The help desired was cheerfully given by Lord Annandale, and five years later a grateful Council unanimously agreed that, "for the great and good services done by my Lord Marquis to the burgh," his tenants should be exempt from the duty exigible on farm produce "brought through the said burgh, and liberties thereof."

Digitized by Google

The next important undertaking which engaged the attention of the burghers was the remodelling of their place of worship. That the church was not sufficiently commodious had long been felt, and at length the Council "did enter into contract with Wm. and John Anderson and James Stillie, all joiners in Annan, whereby they, the said joiners, should be obliged to put up seats upon the town's proportion of the Parish Kirk of Annan, and elect a loft upon and over the said proportion, and put up seats upon the said loft. The seats upon ye said proportion to consist of twenty-two in number upon the floor, and twenty-one seats in number upon the loft, besides the seats for the magistrates."

The erection of a gallery in the church was soon followed by another improvement. On 7th December, 1740, the Council unanimously agreed to add to the building a handsome steeple. "The said day the Magistrates and Council of the burgh being determined with all convenient dispatch to build and erect a steeple and put a clock and bells in it for the advantage and ornament of the burgh, and to the end that they may be the better enabled effectually to complete and finish the said work without bringing the burgh into more debt, have unanimously resolved to retrench and abridge the public expenses of the burgh, as much as possible consistent with the honour and dignity of the burgh. And therefore they enact and ordain that the public expenses of the burgh at entertainments, giving of burgess tickets, and the meetings of the Magistrates and Council upon any of the burgh's affairs whatsomever shall not exceed the sum of Thirty pounds sterling money yearly from Michaelmas to Michaelmas." The worthy Councillors did not find it easy to reduce their "public expenses," and notwithstanding the good resolution adopted in December, 1740, the liquor bill of the burgh continued to amount to more than thirty pounds per annum. Owing to the state of the town funds, the publicans' accounts often remained unpaid for years. In September, 1763, it was agreed to make an effort to wipe out the accumulated debt of seven years. The treasurer received instructions to pay the publicans' bills in full, though they exceeded the authorised sum. "But as the town's revenue was much impaired, this was to be no precedent in time coming."

Many of the entries in the old Council minutes relate to convictions at the burgh court for "blood and riot," and other offences. It amuses one to pour over the yellow pages in which

Digitized by Google

are recorded, with quaint circumstantiality, the crimes and punishments of men and women whose graves in our quiet churchyard have been wet with the showers of a hundred and fifty springs. Assaults were very common, for the fierce old Border spirit was easily roused, and furious blows avenged the slightest wrong with startling swiftness. Even the excellent man who occupied the office of town-clerk had been fined for "blooding and stryking." At times people were attacked in their own houses by aggrieved neighbours. In minutes dated 6th January, 1702, we read :—

"The which day Herbert Wilkin, maltmaker, in the said burgh, being accused of going under cloud of night unto the house of Robert Johnstone, tailor in said burgh, and of grievously beating and striking of Jean Gass, his wife, and the same being proven by witnesses and the said Herbert's own confession, was decerned in ten pounds Scots for an battery committed upon the said Jean Gass, conform to the Act of Parliament, and in forty pounds money foresaid to the party damnified and fiscal of court for the violence done, and ordains him to be imprisoned till he pay the same."

Offences against property were much less common than assaults. "Bairns, herds, and servants, were sometimes guilty of destroying and away taking of peas, beans, and potatoes, and stealing and cutting of neighbours' grass," but serious cases of theft rarely occurred. A case of unusual gravity is recorded in the following extract :—

"24th July, 1701.—The which day James Linton, carpenter in Annan, being accused of taking ane salmont fish from Christopher Irving, stepson to Matthew Ferguson in Annan, alleging the said fish was taken out of his nets, and it being proven by witnesses that the said fish was taken in the said Matthew Ferguson's nets, and that the said James Linton did away take the same from the said Christopher Irving. Therefore decerned and ordained to give back the said fish, and fined for the said crime in ten pounds Scots money, and ordained to be imprisoned till he pay them."

The punishments ordered by the Court were not exceptionally severe. The town boasted of stocks, but these were very seldom used. I know of only one case in which "putting in the stocks" was included in the sentence pronounced. Whipping was rarely inflicted, though, curiously enough, fishermen guilty of contravening the "mercat regulations" of the burgh were liable to personal chastisement, as well as to a pecuniary penalty. Fining was the common mode of punishment, and no doubt the "groates" and "pounds Scots" wrung from offending burghers constituted a large portion of the revenue of the town.

Digitized by Google

I may be asked whether the people of Annan were as much "given to intellectual pursuits" in the days when Blacklock experienced the bitterness of learning at the parish school as at the time when Carlyle first wielded the birch in the Academy? Were the writings of Cudworth and of Chillingworth studied by the devout burghers who every Sunday morning sat in their worm-eaten pews in the parish church listening to the lengthened discourses of the minister? Had the plays of Dryden and of Congreve penetrated to the town? I believe that there was in Annan more intellectual activity than in most places of the kind. It is certain that some of the burgesses were familiar with the productions of the best English authors. The father of Thomas Blacklock was but a bricklayer, yet he read the *Tatler* and *Spectator* and delighted in the works of Spencer and Milton, of Pope and Prior. Blacklock, as we learn from the narrative by Spence prefixed to the 1756 edition of his writings, was early taught by his father "and a few other friends" to appreciate the beauties of the masterpieces of English poetry. It is evident from the words of Spence, who was personally acquainted with Blacklock, that the bricklayer was not singular in his love of good literature—that even in the third decade of the eighteenth century Annan contained not a few men of real culture.

IV. *British Plants in Southern California.* By Dr ANSTRUTHER DAVIDSON, Los Angeles.

When the writer of this touched Los Angeles, a stranger in a strange land, and began to examine its botanical wonders, amidst its varied and perplexing semitropic flora, it was cheering to find that, among the inanimate waifs of cultivation, many were old friends in changed but mostly improved circumstances.

With plants as with man changes seem to follow their migration, so that one can scarcely recognise them in their altered appearance. These variations alone would make an interesting paper, but at present I will confine myself to the communication of the different species of British plants here naturalised.

The native flora is somewhat semitropical in character. The dry warm summers parch the ground, wither up the grasses and annuals, and intensify the general sterile appearance of the whole country. With the advent of the winter rains all this is

Digitized by Google

changed. In a few days the hills show green with a carpet of clover *(Alfiluree)* and flowers rather than of grass; the latter, though in many places abundant, cannot be considered a feature of the indigenous flora.

Among the first to appear are *Brassica nigra* and *B. campestris*. The former species is one of the greatest pests of cultivation, and more detrimental to growing crops here than its better known relative *sinapis arvensis* (wild mustard) is to those of the British farmer. In the moist lands and grain fields, where it has secured a foothold, it grows most luxuriantly to a height of four to eight feet or more, with stems as thick as a walking cane, and forming with its interlacing branches thickets as impenetrable as brushwood. Popularly it is said to have been introduced at an early date by the Spanish monks. Whether this is really so or not I cannot authenticate, as the expression itself is very much akin to that of "came over with the Conqueror," and is subject, I fear, to like abuse. However introduced, its natural fertility, aided by the blackbirds and finches, has spread it over the length and breadth of the country.

The plantain, "the white man's foot," as the Indian calls it, is but casually represented, but that more typical representative of civilisation, the shepherd's purse, *Capsella bursa pastoris*, is here in abundance. In Britain one is too apt to forget that it is an introduction there, having followed civilisation from the Mediterrean shores, and it seems but fitting it should continue the Saxon's march in the peaceful settlement of the Western Continent. The common water cress, *Nasturtium officinale*, and candytuft, *Iberis amara*, escaped from cultivation are well established. The medicks are represented by *M. denticulata* and *M. sativa* (*Lucerne*, or *Alfalfa*, as it is here called), and are two of the most valuable fodder plants in California. *M. denticulata*, or burr clover, has by natural processes spread over the greater part of the lower country, and not only affords maintenance to stock in its green state, but also when matured its ripe burrs being greedily eaten by horses and sheep as they lie round the withered remains of the parent stem. It has one serious drawback, however; its burrs are the processes for perpetuation of the species, and in their attempts to spread themselves they get inextricably mixed among the coats of horses and sheep, and nothing short of removing the hair or fleece will suffice to clear

Digitized by Google

them. *Lucerne*, the *Alfalfa* of Californians, is sown down like grass on somewhat moist land, and under the genial influence of the western sun it grows luxuriantly. The crop, usually knee deep, is cut from five to seven times a year, and converted into hay. Once properly rooted it never requires re-sowing, and as proof of this it is authoratively stated that one of the fields sown by one of the early Spaniards has yielded five or six crops annually ever since and the last apparently as good as any. Along with these *Melilotus parviflora* grows in fair abundance, and is also useful for fodder purposes. Of native clovers there are over thirty varieties, some of which seem very valuable. So far the only British species observed is *Trifolium arvense* (white clover), and only as a casual among imported grasses. Of the *Caryophyllaceæ*, *Silene gallica*, *Cerastium triviale*, and *Stellaria media* are sparsely represented. Only a few of the *Compositæ* are represented; *Anthemis cotula* and *Silybum marianum* are not uncommon. *Taraxacum officinale* (dandelion) is merely a casual, and even where introduced seems to struggle for its bare existence. The sow thistles *(Sonchus oleraceus)* and *S. asper* are common in the waste grounds around the city lots, and contrary to general experience, both seem alike common. The genuine Scotch thistle has not yet arrived, probably because no Scotsman has been patriotic enough to introduce it. The native thistles are quite as unpleasant as they are generally made, but for some reason they seem very limited in numbers. I think, however, of all the introduced weeds *Malva borealis*, or the northern mallow, "takes the cake." Over the wastes, orchards, and cultivated grounds it is more or less prevalent, and where unmolested attains a height sometimes of 6 feet. Once established it is not easily eradicated, as it grows and matures fruit throughout the greater part of a season. The pretty storks bill, *Erodium cicutarium* and *E. moschatum*, known here by the Spanish name of *Alfilaree*, supply along with the burr clover the principal grazing in the earlier summer. In cultivated ground along the valleys and mesa or tablelands, it literally covers the ground in many parts. Though probably introduced by accident, its extensive distribution is mainly due to artificial means, and once introduced its natural fertility ensures its survival and increase. Horehound *(Marrabium vulgare)* is an importation of doubtful utility and exten-

Digitized by Google

sive range. In many places it covers acres of ground, crowding out the natural flora. The bees alone seem to profit by its abundance, but the honey so produced is in some places so characteristic as to taste bitter and unpalatable *Chenopodium album* and *Atriplex patula*, known here as pig weed, are fairly abundant. The grasses foreign to the country have been mostly introduced either for lawns or agricultural purposes. These include *Poa pratensis*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Lolium perenne*, and among the casuals may be mentioned *Poa annua*, *Lolium temulentum*, and *Gragrostis pocoides*.

V. *Connection between Saxon-English and Latin.* By EDWARD J. CHINNOCK, LL.D.

The object of this paper is to show the connection between English proper, as it existed before it came into contact with Latin speakers and writers, and the Latin language. I have found between 400 and 500 words which are cognate or akin in these two languages—a fact which proves their common origin. We must remember that English belongs to the Teutonic group of the Indo-European family of languages, and that Latin belongs to another group of the same family. The ancestors of Romans and Teutons belonged to the same original stock, and spoke the same tongue. The Indo-European family of languages is divided into seven groups—1, Indian languages; 2, Hellenic; 3, Italic or Romanic; 4, Teutonic; 5, Celtic; 6, Sclavonic; 7, Lettic. The Teutonic group is divided into three branches—1, Low German; 2, High German; 3, Scandinavian. The English belongs to the Low German, and the modern German belongs to the High German division. English is divided into four—1, Old English or Anglo-Saxon; 2, Modern English; 3, Provincial English; 4, Lowland Scotch. Abbreviations—O.E., Old English (Anglo-Saxon); G., German.

Ab.—Of, off; in Old English sometimes spelt *af*.

Abdo.—Do. This Latin root is only found in compound verbs, such as *condo*, *trado*, &c.

Acies.—Edge, from O.E. *ecg*; G., *ecke*.

Ad.—At.

Aes (=ahes).—Ore, from O.E. *ar*, or, *or*; G., *erz*.

Aevum.—Ever. O.E., *aefer*; aye, O.E., *a* or *awa* (ever); G., *ewig*.

Ager.—Acre and acorn; G., *acker*.

Digitized by Google

Ago.—Ache ; O.E., *acan.*

Alces.—Elk (from the Scandinavian).

Alius.—Else, which—*elles*, the genitive of O.E., *el*=*alius.*

Alnus.—Alder ; O.E., *alr.*

Alo.—Old ; O.E., *eald* or *ald* ; G., *alt.*

Alter.—*Ter* is a relic of an old comparative which appears in Sanscrit as *tara*, from *tar* (cross over). It is used as the suffix to several words denoting "one of a pair," as *alter*, *uter*, *neuter*. The same comparative ending is found in our *whether*, *other*, *either*, *neither*, and in the G. *ander.*

*Amb*ages.—*Amb* (around) is akin to G. *um* and the O.E. *ymb* or *emb* (round), a prefix still seen in *ember*-days, so called because they come round at a certain set season.

Am*bo.*—*Both*, from *bo*, with termination *th.*

Am*buro.*—*Buro* (burn), found only in *amburo*, *comburo*, is akin to our *burn.*

Anas.—O.E. *ened* (a duck), of which the masculine form was *end-rake*, contracted into our *drake.* Compare G. *ente.*

Anguis.—*Eel* ; G., *aal.*

Angulus and *uncus.*—G. *angel* (a hook), and our *to angle*, from O.E. *angel* (a hook).

Anser.—Originally *hanser*, akin to G. *gans*, and our *goose*, *gander* ; from O.E. *gos* (for *gons*) and *gandra.*

Ante.—G. *ant* in *Antwort*, and O.E. *and*, seen in our *answer.* This prefix was very common in Old English, and is akin to *end.*

Aper.—Boar, from O.E. *bar* ; G., *eber.*

Apis.—Bee ; G., *biene.* The prefix *a* found in *apes*, *apis*, is lost in the English and German words.

Aqua.—Island, from O.E. *igland*, where *ig* is akin to *aqua.* Eyot, a small island, and Angles-*ey* are also cognate with *aq*, the root of *aqua.*

Armus.—Arm, from O.E. *earm.*

Aro.—Ear (to plough), from O.E. *erian.* This word is now obsolete, but is found in our Bible and in Shakspere.

Ascia (acsia).—Axe ; O.E., *aex.*

Asinus.—Ass ; O.E., *asse* ; G., *esel.*

Astrum.—Star ; O.E., *steorra* ; G., *stern.*

Augeo.—Wax ; O.E., *weaxan* ; G., *wachsen.* Also eke, from O.E. *ecan.*

Auris (ausis).—Ear ; O.E., *eare* ; G., *ohr.*

Aurora (=ausosa).—*East* ; G., *ost.*

Axis.—Axle, from O.E. *eax* ; G., *axe.*

Balaena.—Whale ; G., *wall-fisch.* *Balaena* is probably akin to *belua* (a big beast).

Balo.—Bleat ; G., *bloeken.*

Barba.—Beard ; G., *bart.*

Bini.—Twin. *Bini* is *bi* and *ni* the distributive ending, as in our *twi-n* (two at a time).

Bos.—Cow ; O.E., *cu* ; G., *kuh* ; Gaelic, *bo.* The original root had *g*, which in the Greek and Latin words was changed into *b.*

Digitized by Google

Bracae.—Breeches, from O.E. *broc*, plural *brec*, derived from a Celtic word, from which also came the Latin.

Bustum.—Fire; O.E., *fyr*; G., *feuer*. The same root, *bus* or *bur*, is found in *comburo*, &c.

Caelum.—Hole, from O.E. *hol*, which, however, some derive from *helan* (to cover).

Calamus.—Haulm, from O.E. *healm*; G., *halm*.

Calvus.—Callow, from O.E. *calu*; G., *kahl*.

Calx.—Heel; O.E., *hela*.

Canis.—Hound; O.E., *hund*; G., *hund*; Gothic, *hunds*.

Cannabis.—Hemp; O.E., *henep*; G., *hanf*.

Cano.—Hen, which is the feminine of O.E. *hana* (a cock, literally a *singer*); G., *henne*, feminine of *hahn*.

Capio.—Have, from O.E. *habben*; haft, from O.E. *haeft*; G., *haben*, *heft*.

Caput.—Head; O.E., *heafod*; G., *haupt*.

Carpo.—Harvest; O.E., *haerfest*; G., *herbst*.

Caulis.—Kail (from the Gaelic).

Cella.—Hall; O.E., *heal*, from *helan* (hide).

Celo.—Hell, from O.E. *helan* (hide); G., *hehlen*.

Centum.—Hundred; G., *hundert*.

Cerebrun.—Harns (Scotch); G., *hirn* (brain); *gehirn* (brains).

Cervus (the horned one).—Hart, from O.E. *heorot* (horned); G., *hirsch*.

Cieo.—Hie; O.E., *higian*.

Cingo.—Hedge and haw, from O.E. *hecg* and *haga*; G., *hag*.

Circus.—Ring. from O.E. *hring*; G., *ring*.

Civis.—Home, from O.E. *ham* or *haem*; G., *heim*. *Civis* was originally *ceivis* (a resident).

Clamo.—Call; O.E., *ceallian*; Dutch, *kallen*.

Claudus.—Halt; O.E., *healt*.

Clepo.—Shop-*lifter*, from O.E. *liftan* (steal); Gothic, *hlifan* (steal).

Clivus.—Lean; O.E., *hliniam*; G., *lehnen*.

Clueo.—Listen; O.E., *hlystan*.

Collis.—Hill; O.E., *hyll*.

Collum—Hawse (hole in ship's neck); G., *hals*, and O.E., *heals* (neck). *Hals* was used in English as late as the sixteenth century, and is common in Chaucer. *Halse* (to embrace) is found as late as Spenser.

Colus.—Clue or clew; O.E., *cliwe*.

Coquo.—Bake; O.E., *bacan*; G., *backen*.

Cor (=cord).—Heart; O.E., *heort*; G., *herz*.

Cornu.—Horn; G., the same.

Coxa.—Hock or hough; O.E., *hoh*.

Cos (=cots).—Hone; O.E., *han*.

Cratis.—Hurdle; G., *huerde*; Gothic, *haurds*; and cradle, from the Celtic.

Crepo.—Raven; O.E., *hraefn*.

Crinis.—Hair; O.E., *haer*; G., *haar*.

Crudus.—Raw; O.E., *hreaw*; G., *roh*.

Digitized by Google

Cruor.—Rue ; O.E., *hreowan* ; G., *reuen.*

Crux.—Crook ; O.E , *crok* (bend, hook).

Cuculus.—Cuckoo ; G., *kuckuk.* So *cock* seems to have been derived from the bird's cry.

Cudo.—Hew ; O.E., *heawan* ; G., *hauen.*

Culmen.—Holm, which in O.E. meant a mound ; G., *holm* (hill).

Culter.—Shear ; O.E., *scearan* ; G., *scheeren* ; *l* and *r* are often interchanged.

Cunctor.—Hang ; and G., *hangen.*

Cupa.—Hive ; O.E., *hyf* (cup, hive).

Curro.—Horse ; O.E., *hors* ; G., *ross*, literally "a runner."

Curtus.—Short ; O.E., *sceort*, from *scoren* (shear).

Custos.—Hut ; G., *hütte* ; also hide, from O.E. *hydan.*

Cutis.—Hide ; O.E., *hud* or *hyd* ; G., *haut.*

Decem.—Ten ; G., *zehn.*

Dens.—Tooth ; O.E., *toth* = *tonth* ; G., *zahn.*

Deus (=*devus*).—Tuesday, from O.E. *Tiwes-daeg* (day of Tiw, "shining one," god of war). The root of *deus* and *dies* is *div* (shine). *Tiw* is the same word as *Jove.*

Dico.—Teach ; O.E., *taecan* ; G., *zeigen.*

Digitus.—Toe ; O.E., *ta* ; G., *zehe.*

Dolo.—Deal ; O.E., *dael* ; G., *theil.*

Domo.—Tame ; O.E., *temian* ; G., *zaehmen.*

Domus.—Timber ; G., *zimmer.*

Dormio.—Doze (from the Scandinavian) ; dormose = doze-mouse.

Duco.—Tow, tug, from O.E *teohan* ; A., *ziehen, zug.*

Duo.—Two ; G., *zwei.*

Edo.—Eat ; O.E., *etan* ; G., *essen.*

Egeo.—Awe ; O.E., *ege.*

Ego.—I ; O.E., *ic* ; G., *ich.*

Facio.—Do, deed ; O.E., *don*, *daed* ; G., *thun*, *that.*

Fagus.—Beech, book ; O.E., *bece*, *boc* (which originally meant beech) ; G., *buche.*

Fallo.—Fall ; O.E., *feallan* ; G., *fallen.*

Farcio.—Burg, borough, burgh ; O.E., *burh* ; G., *burg.*

Fel.—Gall ; O.E., *gealla* ; yellow, from O.E. *gealow.*

Fero.—Bear ; O.E., *beran* ; bairn, from O.E. *bearn* ; G., *bahre* (a barrow).

Ferus.—Deer ; O.E., *deor* (wild animal) ; G., *thier.*

Ferveo.—Brew ; O.E., *breowan.*

Fiber.—Beaver ; O.E., *befer* ; G., *biber.*

Fides.—Bid, from O.E. *biddan* (pray) ; G., *bitten.*

Findo.—Bite ; O.E., *bitan* ; G., *beissen.*

Fingo.—Dough ; O.E., *dah* ; G., *teig.*

Fio, fui.—Be ; G., *bin.*

Flagro.—Bright ; O.E., *beohrt.*

Flo.—Blow ; O.E., *blawan* ; G., *blaehen.*

Flos.—Blow (to bloom), from O.E. *blowan* ; bloom, from Gothic and Scandinavian ; G., *blume.*

Digitized by Google

Fluo.—Flow ; O.E., *flowan* ; G., *fliessen, fluth.*

For, fari.—Ban, banns ; O.E., *bannen* (proclaim).

Foris.—Door ; O.E., *duru, dor* ; G., *thor, thuer.*

Foro.—Bore ; O.E., *borian* ; G., *bohren.*

Fornax, ferveo.—Glow ; O.E., *glowan* ; G., *gluehen.*

Fortis.—Dare, durst ; O.E., *ic dear* ; infin., *durran.*

Frango.—Break ; O.E., *brecan* ; G., *brechen.*

Frater.—Brother ; G., *bruder.*

Frico.—Grind ; O.E., *grindan.*

Frons.—Brow ; O.E., *breah.*

Fruor.—Brook ; O.E., *brucan* (use) ; G., *brauchen.*

Fugio.—Bow ; O.E., *bugan* ; G., *beugen.*

Fulvus.—Fallow ; O.E., *fealo* (yellow).

Fumus.—Dust. In O.E. and Icelandic the word is the same ; G., *dunst.*

Fundus.—Bottom ; O.E., *botm* ; G., *boden.*

Fungus.—Swamp ; G., *schwamm.*

Furvus.—Brown ; O.E., *brun* ; G., *braun.*

Galbus.—Yellow ; O.E., *geolo* ; G., *gelb.*

Garrio.—Jar ; O.E., *charken* ; G., *knarren.*

Gena.—Chin ; O.E., *cin* ; G., *kinn.*

Gens.—Queen ; O.E., *cwen* (woman).

Genu.—Knee ; O.E., *cneow* ; G., *knie.*

Genus, gigno —Kin, kind ; O.E., *cyn, cynd* ; G., *kind.*

Gleba.—Clod, from Scandinavian.

Globus, glomus.—Clew ; O.E., *cliwe* ; Dutch, *kluwen* ; and cloud ; O.E., *clud* (round mass).

Glubo.—Cleave ; O.E., *cleofan* ; G., *klieben.*

Gramen.—Grass ; O.E., *gaers* ; G., *gras.*

Grando.—Hail ; O.E., *hagol* ; G., *hagel.*

Granum.—Corn ; G., *korn.*

Gratus.—Yearn ; O.E., *gyrnan* ; G., *gierig.*

Grus.—Crane ; O.E., *cran, crano* ; G., *kranich.*

Gustus.—Choose ; O.E., *ceosan* ; G., *kiesen.*

Habeo.—Have, haft. The root of *habeo* is the same as that of *capio.*

Haedus (=ghaedus).—Goat ; O.E., *gat, gaet* ; G., *geiss.*

Heri (=hesi). } *Yester*-day ; O.E., *geostra* ; G., *gestern.*
Hesternus. }

Hio (=ghio).—Yawn ; O.E., *ganan.*

Homo (=ghomo).—Groom in bride-groom, from O.E. *bryd-guma* ; G., *gam* in *braeuti-gam* ; Gothic, *guma.*

Hora.—Year ; O.E., *gear* ; G., *jahr.*

Hortus.—Yard ; O.E., *geard* ; G., *garten.*

Hostis (=ghostis).—Guest ; O.E., *gaest* ; G., *gast.*

Ibi.—The suffix *bi* is akin to our *by*, in O.E., *bi* ; G., *bei.* The same suffix is seen in *ubi, tibi, sibi.*

In (Prep.)—In ; O.E. and G., *in.*

In (Not).—*Un* (which is also German).

Inclutus.—Loud is allied to *clutus* ; O.E., *hlud* ; G., *laut.*

Digitized by Google

Inter.—Under ; G., *unter.*
Jugum.—Yoke ; O.E., *geoc* ; G., *joch.*
Juvenis.—Young ; O.E., *geong* ; G., *jung.*
Labia.—Lip ; O.E., *lippe* ; G., *lippe.*
Labor.—Slip ; O.E., *slipan.*
Lacrima.—Tear ; same in O.E.; G,, *zaehre.*
Lacus.—Loch (Gaelic), lough (Irish).
Lassus.—Late ; O.E., *laet* ; G., *lass.*
Latus (=platus).—Flat ; G., *platt.*
Lavo and *luo.*—Lye ; O.E., *leah* ; G., *lauge.*
Laxus, languco.—Lag (from the Celtic.
Lego.—Lay, from O.E., *lecgan* ; G., *legen* ; and lie, from O.E. *licgan*; G., *liegen.*
Lentus.—Lithe (same in O.E.) ; G., *gelinde.*
Levis (=legvis).—Light ; O.E., *liht* ; G., *leicht.*
Lex (from *lego*).—Law, from O.E. *lagu* (that which lies).
Libet or *lubet.*—Love ; O.E., *luf* ; G., *lieben* ; lief, from O.E. *leof.*
Ligurio, lingo.—Lick ; O.E., *liccian* ; G., *lecken.*
Limus.—Lime ; O.E., *lim* (bitumen, cement) ; G., *leim* (glue).
Lingua.—Tongue ; O.E., *tunge* ; G., *zunge.*
Lis (=stlis).—Strife ; O.E., *stridan* ; G., *streit.*
Locus (=stlocus).—Stall ; O.E., *steal.*
Longus.—Long ; O.E., *lang* ; G., *lang.*
Lucus.—Lea ; O.E., *leah.*
Luo.—Lose ; O.E., *leosan* ; G., *los.*
Lupus.—Wolf ; O.E., *wulf* ; G. *wolf.*
Lux.—Light ; O.E., *leoht* ; G., *licht.*
Macula.—Mole ; O.E., *mal* ; G., *maal.*
Maereo.—Mourn ; O.E., *murnan.*
Magnus.—May ; O.E., *mugan* ; might, mickle ; G., *macht.*
Mando.—Meat ; O.E., *mete.*
Mare.—Mere ; G., *meer.*
Margo.—Mark and march ; O.E., *mearc* (mark, border).
Mas (=mans).—Man ; O.E., *mann* ; G., *mann.*
Mater.—Mother ; O.E., *modor* ; G., *mutter.*
Medius.—Mid ; G., *mitte.*
Mel.—Mead ; O.E., *medu.*
Mens, memini.—Mind ; O.E., *gemynd.*
Mensis.—Moon, month ; O.E., *mona, monath* ; G., *mond, monat.*
Messis.—Mead, math ; G., *mahd, matte.*
Metior.—Mete ; O.E., *metan* ; G., *messen.*
Meto.—Mow ; O.E., *mawan* ; G., *maehen.*
Minor.—Mince ; O.E., *minsian*, from *min* (small).
Miror.—Smile, which is also Danish ; and provincial German *smielen.*
Misceo.—Mix ; O.E., *miscan* ; G., *mischen.*
Mollis.—Mellow ; O.E., *mearu.*
Mola.—Meal ; O.E., *melu* ; G., *mehl.*
Mordeo.—Smart ; O.E., *smeortan* ; G., *schmerzen.*

Digitized by Google

Morior.—Murder ; O.E., *morthor.*

Mulgeo.—Milk ; O.E., *meolc* ; G., *milch.*

Mus.—Mouse ; O.E., *mus* ; G., *maus.*

Muscus.—Moss ; O.E., *meos* ; G., *moos.*

Nasus.—Nose ; O.E., *naes, nasu,* or *nosu* ; G., *nase.*

Ne.—O.E., *ne* and *na,* from which comes *not.*

Neo.—Needle ; O.E., *naedel* ; G., *naehen* (sew).

Nepos.—Nephew ; O.E., *nefa* ; G., *neffe.*

Nervus.—Snare ; O.E., *snear* (cord).

Nidus (=nisdus).—Nest (which is also German).

*Nix (*root, *snig).*—Snow ; O.E., *snaw* ; G., *schnee.*

Nodus (=gnodus).—Knot ; O.E., *cnotta* ; G., *knoten.*

Nomen.—Name ; O.E., *nama* ; G., *name* ; Gothic, *namo.*

*Nosco (*root, *gno).*—Know ; O.E., *cnawan* ; and ken, can, from O.E. *cunnan* ; G., *kennen* ; Gothic, *kann.*

Novem.—Nine ; O.E., *nigon* ; G., *neun.*

Novus.—New ; O.E., *niwe* ; G., *neu.*

Nox (noct).—Night ; O.E., *niht* ; G., *nacht.*

Nudus (=nugdus).—Naked ; O.E., *nacod* ; G., *nackt.*

Num (nunc).—Now ; O.E., *nu* ; Gothic, *nu.*

Octo.—Eight ; O.E., *eahta* ; G., *acht.*

Oculus.—Eye ; O.E, *eage* ; G., *auge.*

Olus, holus.—Green ; O.E., *grene* ; G., *gruen.*

Ornus.—Roan or rowan-tree (from Norse .

Ovis.—Ewe ; O.E., *eowu.*

Ovum.—Egg ; O.E., *aeg* ; G., *ei.*

Palleo.—Fallow ; O.E., *fealo* ; G., *fahl.*

Pannus.—Vane ; O.E., *fana* (flag) ; G., *fahne.*

Pasco.—Feed ; O.E., *fedan.*

Pateo.—Fathom ; O.E., *faethm* (space of the extended arms); G., *faden.*

Pater.—Father ; O.E., *faeder* ; G., *vater.*

Paucus.—Few ; O.E., *feaw* ; Gothic, *faws.*

Pecus.—Fee ; O.E., *feoh* (cattle) ; G., *vieh.*

Pellis.—Fell (a skin) ; O.E., *fel* or *fell* ; G., *pelz.*

Penna (petna).—Feather ; O.E., *fether* ; G., *feder.*

Per.—Far, fro, from, and the prefix *for* in *forswear,* &c. ; G., *ver.*

Perforo.—Foro (to pierce) is akin to our *bore* ; O.E., *borian* (to make a hole) ; G., *bohren.*

Pes.—Foot ; O.E.. *fot* ; G.. *fuss.*

Peto.—Find ; O.E., *findan* ; G., *finden.*

Pilus.—Felt ; G., *filz.*

Piscis.—Fish ; O.E., *fisc* ; G., *fisch.*

Pituita (=spituita).—Spit ; O.E., *spittan.*

Pix.—Pitch ; O.E., *pic* ; G., *pech.*

Plaga.—Fleck (which is also German).

Planus (=platnus).—Plate, flat ; G., *platt.*

Plecto.—Fold ; O.E., *fealdan* ; G., *flechten.* Flax ; O.E., *fleax* : G., *flachs* and *falten.*

Digitized by Google

Pleo, plenus.—Fill, full ; G., *voll.*
Pluo.—Flow, flood, float ; O.E., *flowan, flod, flot.*
Populus (=polpolus).—Folk ; G., *volk.*
Porca (a ridge between two furrows).—Furrow ; O.E., *furh ;* G., *furche.*
Porcus.—Farrow ; O.E., *fearh* (pig) ; G., *ferkel.*
Porricio.—Ricio is cognate with our *reach* ; O.E., *raecan ;* G., *reichen.*
Praestolor.—Stolor is akin to stall, still ; G., *stellen.*
Porto.—Fare, ferry ; O.E., *faran* (go) ; G., *fahren.*
Prehendo.—Hendo is akin to *get*, from O.E., *gitan.*
Primus (=*proimus*).—former, from O.E., *forma* (first).
Pro.—Fore, for, far ; G., *vor.*
Prurio pruina.—Freeze ; O.E., *freosan ;* G., *frieren.*
Pugnus.—Fist ; O.E., *fyst ;* G., *faust.*
Pulex.—Flea ; G., *floh.*
Pullus.—Foal, filly ; O.E., *fola ;* G., *fohlen.*
Pungo.—Fight ; O.E., *feohtan* ; G., *fechten* ; poke, from Celtic *poc.*
Pupus, pupillus.—Boy ; G., *bube.*
Puter.—Foul ; O.E., *ful ;* G., *faul.*
Qualis.—Which ; O.E., *hwilc=hwi-lic* (why-like).
Quattuor.—Four ; O.E., *feower ;* G., *vier.*
Quercus.—Fir ; O.E., *furh ;* G., *foehre.*
Queror (=quesor).—Wheeze ; O.E., *hwesan.*
Qui.—Who ; O.E., *hwa ;* G., *wer.*
Quies.—While ; O.E., *hwil* (pause, time).
Quinque.—Five ; O.E., *fif=finf ;* G., *fuenf.*
Radix.—Root ; O.E., *wyrt ;* G., *wurz.*
Ratis (=*aratis*) } Oar ; O.E., *ar.*
Remus (=*eremus*) } Row ; O.E., *rowan.*
Ravus.—Gray ; O.E., *graeg ;* G., *grau.*
Rego, rectus.—Right ; O.E., *riht ;* G., *recht.*
Rigo.—Rain ; O.E., *regn ;* G., *regen.*
Rivus, ruo.—Stream ; G., *strom.*
Ruber, rufus.—Ruddy, rust, red ; O.E., *rud, rust, read* ; G., *roth.*
Rudis.—Rod, rood.
Sabulum.—Sand (which is also German and Norse).
Sal.—Salt (which is also Gothic) ; G., *salz.*
Saliva —Slime ; O.E., *slim ;* G., *schleim.*
Salix.—Sallow ; O.E., *sealh, salig* (willow).
Salum.—Swell ; O.E., *swellan ;* G., *schwellen.*
Salvus.—Silly ; O.E., *saelig* (timely, happy, foolish) ; G., *selig.*
Sanus.—Sound ; O.E., *sund ;* G., *gesund.*
Sapio.—Sap ; O.E., *saep* ; G., *saft.*
Satis.—Sad ; O.E., *saed* (sated) ; G., *satt.*
Scabies (from *Scabo*, to scratch) } Scab ; O.E., *scaeb.* Shave ; O.E., *sceafan* ; G., *schaben.*
Scaevus.—Skew ; G., *schief.*
Scalpo.—Sharp ; O.E., *scearp ;* G., *scharf.*
Scarabaeus —Crab ; O.E., *crabba ;* G., *krabbe, krebs.*

Digitized by Google

Scelus.—Shall, from O.E., *sceal* (owe); G., *schuld;* Gothic, *skal* (owe).
Scintilla.—Shine; O.E., *scinan;* G., *scheinen.*
Scio.—Skill (from the Norse, meaning *separate*).
Scribo.—Grave; O.E., *grafan;* G., *graben.*
Scutum.—Sky; O.E., *Scua* (shade, cloud).
Seco.—Saw; O.E., *saga;* G., *saegen.*
Sedeo.—Sit; O.E., *sittan;* G., *sitzen;* Gothic, *sittan.*
Sella.—Saddle; O.E., *sadol;* G., *sattel.*
Semen.—Seed; O.E., *saed;* G. *saat.*
Semi.—O.E. prefix, *sam* (half), still seen in sand-blind (*i.e.*, half blind).
Septem.—Seven; O.E., *seofon;* G., *sieben.*
Sero.—Sow; O.E, *sawan;* G., *saeen.*
Serpo.—Slip; O.E., *slipan;* G., *schliefen.*
Sex.—Six; G., *sechs.*
Sic (akin to *suus*).—So; O.E., *swa;* G., *so;* Gothic, *swa.*
Sileo.—Seldom; O.E., *seldum;* G., *selten.*
Similis—Same; G., *zusammen;* Gothic, *sama.*
Simul.—O.E., *sam* (together), used even by Spenser.
Sons, sontis.—Sin; O.E., *syn;* G., *suende;* Icelandic, *synd.*
Sordes.—Swart; O.E., *sweart;* G., *schwarz.*
Soror.—Sister; O.E., *sweostor;* G., *schwester.*
Sparus.—Spear; O.E., *spere;* G., *speer.*
Sperno.—Spurn; O.E., *speornan* (kick against).
Spuma.—Foam; O.E., *fam.*
Spuo.—Spew; O.E., *spiwan;* G., *speien.*
Stabulum.—Stall; O.E., *steal;* G., *stall.*
Statio.—Stead; O.E., *stede* (a place); G., *stadt, statt.*
Stella (=*sterula*).—Star; O.E., *steorra;* G., *stern.*
Sterilis.—Stark; O.E., *stearc;* G., *stark.*
Sterno.—Strew, straw, storm; G., *stroh, sturm.*
Stimulus (=*stigmulus*).—Stick, Sting; O.E., *stician, stingan;* G., *stechen, stecken.*
Stipes.—Staff, stiff; O.E., *staef, stif.*
Stipo.—Step; O.E., *steppan;* G., *stift.*
Sto.—Stand; O.E., *standen;* G., *stehen.*
Stolidus.—Still; O.E., *stille.*
Stringo.—Strong, string; O.E., *strang, strenge;* G., *streng.*
Sturmus.—Starling; O.E., *staer;* G., *staar.*
Suadeo.—Sweet; O.E., *swete;* G., *suess.*
Sub.—Up; G., *auf.*
Sudo.—Sweat; O.E., *swat;* G., *schweiss.*
Sugo.—Suck; O.E., *sucan;* G., *saugen.*
Sum (=*esum*).—Am=*asm;* O.E., *eom*=*esom.*
Suo.—Sew; O.E., *siwian.*
Super.—Over; O.E., *ofer;* G., *ueber.*
Sus.—Sow, swine; O.E., *sugu* or *su, swin* (a pig); G., *sau.*
Susurro.—Swarm; O.E., *swearm* (that which hums); G., *schwarm.*
Tabes.—Thaw; O.E., *thawan;* G., *thauen.*

Digitized by Google

Tam (root *ta*, this).—The, that; G., *der, dass.* The same root is found in is-*te*, is-*ta*, is-*tud.*

Tango.—Take (from the Norse); Gothic, *tekan* (touch).

Taurus (=*Staurus*).—Steer; O.E., *steor;* G., *stier;* Gothic, *stiur.*

Tectus.—Tight; G., *dicht;* literally, "covered in."

Tego.—Deck (from Dutch), thatch; O.E., *decan* (to cover), *theccan;* G., *decken, dach.*

Tendo, tenuis.—Thin; O.E., *thynne;* G., *dehnen, duenn.*

Tenebrae.—Dim (same in O.E.); G., *dämmerig.*

Terminus.—Thrum (from Scandinavian); G., *trumm.*

Tero.—Throe; O.E., *threaw.*

Tollo.—Thole; O.E., *tholian;* G., *dulden;* Gothic, *thula.*

Tono.—Thunder; O.E., *thunian;* G., *donner.*

Torqueo.—Throw; O.E., *thrawan* (turn); G., *drehen.*

Torreo.—Thirst; O.E., *thyrst*, from *thyr* (dry); G., *durst.*

Trans.—Through; O.E., *thurh;* G., *durch;* Gothic, *thairh.*

Tres.—Three; O.E., *thry;* G., *drei;* Gothic, *threis.*

Trudo.—Threat; O.E., *threotan;* G., *verdriessen.*

Tu.—Thou; O.E., *thu;* G., *du;* Gaelic and Persian, *tu;* Greek, *su* or *tu.*

Tum.—Then, than; O.E., *thonne;* G., *denn, dann.*

Turdus.—Thrush; O.E., *thrysce;* G., *drossel.*

Uber.—Udder; O.E., *uder;* G., *euter.*

Ulmus.—Elm; G., *ulme.*

Ulna.—Ell, elbow; O.E., *eln, el-boga;* G., *ellen-bogen.*

Ululo.—Howl, owl; O.E., *ule;* G., *eule.*

Umbilicus } Navel; O.E., *nafela;* G., *nabel.*
} Nave (of a wheel); O.E., *nafu.*

Unda.—Water; O.E., *waeter;* G., *wasser;* Dutch, *water.*

Unguis.—Nail; O.E., *naegel;* G., *nagel.*

Unus.—One; O.E., *an;* G., *ein;* Gothic, *ains.*

Urgeo.—Wring; O.E.. *wringan* (to press); wreak; O.E., *wrecan*; irk (from the Scandinavian).

Urina.—O.E., *wer* (sea); G., *harn.*

Uter (=*cuter*).—Whether; O.E., *hwaether;* Gothic, *hvathar* (which of the two).

Vado.—Go; O.E., *gan;* G., *gehen;* Gothic, *gaggan.* Also, wade; O.E., *wadan.*

Vae.—Woe; O.E., *wa* or *wae*; G., *weh.*

Valeo.—Wield; O.E., *wealdan;* G., *walten.*

Vas.—Wed (literally, to pledge, bargain); O.E., *weddian*, from *wed* (a pledge); G., *welle.*

Vastus —Waste; O.E., *weste.*

Veho.—Weigh, waggon; O.E., *wegan* (carry), *waegen* (cart); G. *wegen;* Gothic, *vegs* (movement).

Vellus.—Wool; O.E., *wull;* G., *wolle;* Gothic, *vulla.*

Veneror.—Win; O.E., *winnan;* G., *gewinnen.*

Venio (=*gvenio*).—Come; O.E., *cuman*; G., *kommen.*

Digitized by Google

Ventus.—Womb ; O.E., *wamb ;* G., *wampe, wanst.*

Ventus.—Wind (English and German) ; Gothic, *vinds ;* weather ; O.E., *weder ;* G., *wetter.*

Verbum.—Word (same in O.E.) ; G., *wort* ; Gothic, *vaurd.*

Vereor.—Ware, ward ; O.E , *waer, waerd ;* G., *warten ;* Gothic, *vars.*

Vermis.—Worm ; O.E., *wyrm ;* G., *wurm ;* Gothic, *vaurms.*

Verna (=*vesna*).—O.E., *wist* (food).

Verto.—Our suffix *ward ;* O.E., *weard* (towards) ; G., *wärts ;* worth (to become), from O.E., *weortan ;* G., *werden.*

Vespa.—Wasp ; O.E., *waesp or waeps ;* G., *wespe.*

Vesper.—West (English and German), from *vas* (to dwell) ; Sanscrit, *vasta* (house). The west was supposed to be the sun's dwelling place at night.

Veterina.—Wether (a yearling) ; G., *widder.*

Via (=*vegia*).—Way ; O.E., *weg ;* G., *weg ;* Gothic, *vegs.*

Vibro.—Waive (from Scandinavian).

Vicis.—Weak ; O.E., *wician ;* G., *weichen, wechsel.*

Vicus.—Wich, wick, as in Greenwich, Alnwick ; O.E., *wic* (dwelling).

Video.—Wit ; O.E., *witan* (know) ; G., *wissen.*

Viduus.—Widow ; O.E., *widwe, widuwe ;* G., *wittwe ;* Gothic, *viduvo.*

Vieo, vitis.—Withe ; O.E., *withig* (willow) ; G., *weide.*

Vigeo.—Wake, watch ; O.E., *wacan ;* G., *wachen.*

Vincio.—To wind ; O.E., *windan ;* G., *winden.*

Vinum.—Wine ; O.E., *win ;* G., *wein* (these English and German words were derived from the Latin through the Gothic).

Vir.—O.E., *wer* (man) ; G., *herr ;* Gothic, *vair.* The Anglo-Saxons called the devil *wer-wolf* (man-wolf).

Vivo (=*gvivo*).—Quick ; O.E., *cwic* (living, active) ; Gothic, *quivs.*

Volo.—Will ; O.E., *willan* ; G., *wollen*

Volvo.—Walk ; O.E., *wealcan* ; G., *wälzen* ; wallow—O.E , *wealwian.*

1st May, 1891.

Rev. WILLIAM ANDSON in the Chair.

New Members.—Miss Babington, Meadowbank, and Mr Harold Masterton.

Donations.—The Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 1889-90 ; the Smithsonian Report, 1888 ; the Report of the United States National Museum, 1889-90.

Exhibit.—The Secretary (Dr E. J. Chinnock) exhibited a *fac simile* of part of the newly-discovered papyrus containing the lost work of Aristotle on the "Constitution of Athens," and read a paper descriptive of the papyrus.

Digitized by Google

Communications.

I. *Some Old Note-takers and their Notes.* By Mr Peter Gray.

In his paper Mr Gray succinctly analysed the contents of three booklets, describing respectively the countries and peoples of England, Holland, and Scotland. The book is ascribed to James Howell, the author of the celebrated "Letters" (1596-1666).

II. *Holywood Abbey.* By George F. Black, Ph.D.

The date of the foundation of the Abbey of Holywood is uncertain, but it seems to have been before the year 1180. Previous to this, however, there seems to have been a cell occupied by a monk named Congall, hence the name Dercongall, meaning "the oak wood of Congall." Congall, or S. Congall, is commemorated in the calender of Adam King, published in Paris in 1588, under May 12th:—"S. Congall, abot of haliwode and conf. in scotland vnder King Malcome 2. 1 13." In the Martyrology of Aberdeen, quoted in Forbes' *Kal. Scot. Sts.*, p. 130:—"Vj Idus Maij. In Scocia Sancti Congalli abbotis apud monasterium de Drumcongal cuius merita longe lateque diffusa miraculis non desunt clarere impolluta mente calcanit et immerito qui presentis vite infomiam et immundicie calumniam tanquan Christi pauper paupertatis et paciencie posterum prebebat exemplum." In Brockie's MS. (p. 8488) it is stated that in an ancient missal belonging to Father Thomas Primrose, there was inserted with a pen a collect of or to "S. Congal, Abbate Sacri Bosci."—Gordon, *Monasticon* p. 318. See also Dempster, *Hist. Ecc. Gent. Scot.* i. 158-59. The Abbey was also known by the name Dercongal, especially in Papal Bulls, and it was also called St. Bois, Sacro Bosco Nemus Sacrum, and Monasterium sacris nemoris, "Monastery of the sacred grove." A large part of the grove remained in the time of Charles I. (Description of Nithsdale in *Bleau's Atlas*, 55.) Many roots of ancient oak trees were dug up by the Rev. Dr Bryce (Johnston's *Statistical Account*, i., p. 18). A drawing of the stone circle at Holywood is given by Grose in his *Antiquities*, vol. i., p. 169. The foundation of the Abbey of Holywood could not have been much earlier than 1180, as the monks belonged to the Premonstratensian order, which was

Digitized by Google

established about 1120. The Premonstratensian or Norbertine order was founded by S. Norbert about the year 1120, in the diocese of Laon, France. A spot was pointed out to S. Norbert in a vision, and he termed the place *Pre montre* or *Pratum monstratum*, because the place was "divina revelatione praemonstratum." The order was a mixture of the monastic and canonical life, and followed chiefly the rule of S. Augustine. The order was also sometimes called *candidus ordo*, because their garb was entirely white. It was confirmed by Pope Honorius II. and Innocent III. After the death of their founder the monks of Premontre published that he had received his rule, curiously bound in gold, from the hand of St. Augustine himself, who appeared to Norbert one night, and said thus to him—"Here is the rule which I have written, and if thy Brethren do observe it, they, like my children, need to fear nothing at all in the day of Judgment." The order spread itself into Syria, Normandy, Flanders, Spain, Britain, and elsewhere. According to Dugdale (*Monasticon*, ii., p. 1057), the Abbey was founded by John, Lord of Kirkconnell, of the Maxwell family. According to another account it was founded by Devorgilla, wife of John Baliol, Lord of Barnard, as a cell to Soul's Seat. The former seems to me to be the more probable, although it must be confessed all is uncertainty. In 1235, Affrica, daughter of Edgar, mentions the lands of Dunscore as being near the lands of the monks of Dercongal and the King's road, which led from Dercongal to Glencairn (*Lib. Cart. Melros* 103). In the same year, Odo or Otho, who had been abbot of Dercongal, was elected Bishop of Candida Casa by the monks of Whithorn; but he was refused consecration, and his opponent, who had been elected by the clergy of Galloway, was preferred *(ibid)*. In 1257, William, Bishop of Glasgow, decided a controversy between the monks of Melrose and the monks of Dercongal regarding the church and titles of Dunscore *(ibid)* 107.

The abbot of Dercongal sat in the great Parliament at Brigham in March, 1290 (Rymer, *Foed.*, ii., 471, where the name Dercongal is blundered into Darwongville). Dungal, the "abbot de Sacrobosco" (Sacred Bush), with his monks, swore fealty to Edward I. at Berwick in August, 1296 (Pyrnne, *Hist. Coll.*, iii., p. 653). Prynne gives the name as Saint Boyse. In return King Edward immediately issued a writ to the Sheriff of Dumfriesshire ordering

Digitized by Google

him to restore the property of "Dungal abbas de sacro nemore" (Rymer, ii., p. 72). In May, 1365, David II. granted a protection and certain privileges to the abbot and convent "de sacro nemore" (*Regis. Mag Sig.* 128). In the reign of Robert I., his brother, Lord of Galloway, founded at the Abbey of Holywood an hospital and a chapel, which he endowed with some lands in Galloway. This hospital having been ruined during the war of succession was restored in 1372 by Archibald Douglas, Lord of Galloway, who again endowed it with the lands of Crossmichael and Troqueer, in Galloway. This second endowment was sanctioned by Walter, Bishop of Glasgow, and confirmed by Robert II. on the 2d June, 1372 (*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, ii., 56).

The Abbey stood within the present churchyard till 1779, when its remains were pulled down and appropriated to the building of the present church. An engraving of the Abbey is given in Cardonnel's *Antiquities of Scotland.* Two bells originally belonging to the Abbey are still in use. One bears an inscription partly illegible, which is generally understood to mean that the bell was consecrated by an abbot, John Wrich, in the year 1154. I am inclined to think there is some error here. The copy of the inscription given in Riddell's MS. (vol. vii., p. 211) seems to read—I. WRICH ABBAS SACR. NME. FIERI FECIT AD. Q. . . . . VIGEN. Query—Can the date be 1520? Riddel says—"The Chartulary of the Abbey [of Holywood] was carried by some of the monks to France, and I am told is either to be seen in the Scott's Colledge at Paris or at the Colledge of Dowey in France" (MS. vol. vii., p. 209). Could we refer to this cartulary we should in all probability have little difficulty in determining the date of the bell.

The monks of Holywood possessed many lands in Nithsdale and East Galloway, and had jurisdiction over the whole. The powerful family of Maxwell acquired the office of baillie to the abbot, whom they protected, and they obtained the six-merk lands of Baltersan, with the three-merk lands of Gleneslan, as a fee for executing this office, which continued hereditary till the abolition of such jurisdictions in 1748 (*Inquisit Speciales*, 25, 102, 266, 346, 380). In 1544 the rental of the monastery amounted to £700 Scots money, 19 chalders, 14 bolls, and 3 firlots of meal, 9 bolls and 3 firlots of bear, and one chalder of malt. By the plunder of the Reformation it was reduced to £425, and still more

Digitized by Google

to £395 18s 8d Scot (Keith's *Hist.*, *app.*, p. 185). What remained of the property of this monastery after much waste was vested in the King by the General Annexation Act in 1587. In 1617 an Act of Parliament was passed dissolving the said annexation as to the whole temporal property of the Abbey, and the spiritual property of the same, consisting of their parish churches of Holywood, Dunscore, Penpont, Tynron, and Kirkconnel, parsonages and vicarages, with their tithes and revenues, in order that the King might grant the whole to John Murray, of Lochmaben, and his heirs, and might erect the same into a free barony, to be called the barony of Holywood, for the yearly payment of £20 Scots, in name of *blench ferm* (*Acts Parl. Scot.* iv., 575). Murray accordingly obtained a charter of the whole on the 9th of April, 1618, and it was ratified in Parliament on the 4th August, 1621 (*Ibid.* iv., 665). Murray, who had been about the King from his youth, and was one of the grooms of the bed-chamber, acquired from the King before this the barony of Lochmaben and other property in Dumfriesshire.

Thomas Campbell, the last abbot of Holywood, was prosecuted by the Regent Murray for assisting Queen Mary after her escape from Lochleven, and he was forfeited on the 19th August, 1568 (*Acts Parl.*, iii., 54). A charter of grants of lands by this abbot Thomas to John Charteris, in Rydingwood, dated 7th June, 1548, is in the National Museum of Antiquities. The seal attached to this charter is similar to one figured by Laing (*Scottish Seals*, ii., p. 202, pl. xv., 2). It is circular, in the centre a bird sitting on a tree; in the lower part are two estoiles, legend—S COE ABBIS ET CONVENTI SAC NEMORIS—"Common Seal of the Abbey and Convent of Sacra Nemoris."

III. *Meteorological Notes on the past Winter.*

By Mr PATRICK DUDGEON.

The exceptional characteristics connected with the winter of 1890-91 deserve more than a passing notice, and the few subjoined notes may perhaps be thought worth placing on the records of the Society for reference at any subsequent period:—

Much attention has been given of late years to the subject of meteorology, and although in the present state of the science it appears impossible to deduce anything like true conclusions as to

Digitized by Google

what may probably occur in the future regarding "weather," still it may be hoped that from an increased number of meteorological stations, and more careful and extended observations, that "weather forecasts" may assume a more important aspect than is the case at present in the infancy of this science. What has already been accomplished in this direction by the Meteorological Office has undoubtedly been of much service to the country, and the warning notices of approaching storms have been the means of saving many lives, although the "forecasts," generally speaking, can only be relied on for a period of 24, or at the most 48, hours in advance, and then not always with certainty. About 75 to 80 per cent. of the "forecasts" issued by the Meteorological Office prove to be correct, but sudden changes of weather and storms, arising, probably, from some local atmospheric disturbance, still elude the most careful observers. One of the most marked features of the past winter has been the difference in temperature between the South and North of Great Britain, quite reversing the usual conditions. The cold experienced in the South of England has been compared, not without reason, to the memorable winter of 1814, when the Thames was quite frozen over above Blackfriars' Bridge, a fair was held on the frozen river, booths erected for dancing, &c., printing presses set up, and a sheep was roasted on the ice; and had it not been for the extensive embankments, erected since that time, contracting the channel of the river, and thereby creating a stronger current, it is believed the same things might have taken place during the past winter; as it was, the river was frozen over at Hampton Court, and for some distance below, and skating was indulged in for miles on the frozen surface. Large masses of floating ice accumulated between the bridges for a time, quite putting a stop to navigation. The ice on the ponds in the different parks was from 7 to 10 inches in thickness. The duration of this frost continued for a considerably longer period than in 1814. The days on which the mean temperature was below 32 degrees during the late frost were 33; in 1814, 26 days. In the North of England and Scotland, generally speaking, little more than an ordinary winter was experienced, and in the extreme North of Scotland the winter months were rather above the average temperature. The duration of the frost may be taken as lasting from the 13th December, 1890, to 22nd January,

Digitized by Google

1891, inclusive, and though varying a little in some districts, the period may be taken for the sake of comparison. In the southern parts of the kingdom the frost was almost continuous during the period; in the north many intervals of milder weather were experienced. Coming northwards we find a steady and progressive rise in temperature taking place, and, on the other hand, as we go southwards, an increasing number of days in which the minimum temperature was below 32 degrees, and also in the absolute minimum, as the following table clearly shows :—

	Average Minimum for the period.	Absolute Minimum.	Nights below 32°.
London	24°.2	14°	40
York	25°.4	10°	23
Cargen	27°.9	17°	31
Leith	30°.3	25°	25
Stornoway	34°.1	25°	13
Shetland / Sumburgh Head	35°.5	27°	8

Many instances of this progressive difference in temperature between the south and north of the country might be given. One may be adduced. On the 12th January the mean temperature for the previous 24 hours was in—

London	21°.5
York	32°.5
Cargen	45°.2
Leith	44°.8
Stornoway	50°
Sumburgh Head	46°.5

Great damage has been done in many places by the intense cold. One instance of this is the destruction amongst the oyster beds at Whitstable. The sea was covered with ice, and the damage done is estimated at from £15,000 to £20,000.

Another remarkable feature of the late winter was the small rainfall in February throughout the whole country. No such dry February for the whole of Great Britain has ever been recorded, and it may be doubted if we have ever had in any month during the present century so small a rainfall for the whole kingdom. The rainfall in the south, generally speaking, has been less than in the north. A map is given in the April number of the *Meteorological Magazine*, which shows that the average rainfall of the month, between a line drawn from Peter head through Glasgow, and another from the mouth of the Tees

Digitized by Google

to Milford Haven, is—1 inch and + 0·10 inch. Southwards of the last line the average rainfall of the district is—0·10 inch; north of the first line the average rainfall is + 1 inch. There are a few exceptional stations in Wales, Cumberland, and the west coast of Scotland where the rainfall is + 2 inches, but at these the fall has been much below the average—*e.g.*, at Seathwaite, Borrowdale, where the average rainfall for February is 12·64 inches, the falling off was no less than 10·04 inches. In a table given in the *Meteorological Magazine* for March the observations taken from 770 stations in the south and midland counties of England show that at 129 of these stations the fall was less than — 0·10 inch, and at 48 (15 of which were in Devonshire) no rain was recorded. Mention must be made of the exceptionally high barometric pressure which prevailed all over the country during February. The mean pressure for the month at Cargen was 30·413 inches, corrected for sea level. The nearest to this abnormally high pressure recorded at this station during 31 years was in November, 1867, when the mean height of the barometer for the month was 30·269 (corrected) inches. At Pembroke the mean for February was 30·444 inches.

The snowstorm of March, which principally affected the south-west of England and the north of France, was one of the most severe which has occurred for many years, and which was most severely felt in Devonshire and Cornwall, where much damage was done. Many trains were blocked in the south of England, and in Devonshire and Cornwall all communication was cut off between different centres for three or four days. Amongst other mishaps the "Zulu" express from London to Plymouth was blocked by snowdrifts at Cambourne for three days. Snowdrifts from 10 to 30 feet deep were reported from many places. A strong gale was experienced during the time of the snowfall, and many shipwrecks occurred on the Cornish and Devonshire coasts. The storm commenced on the 9th, and lasted, with an interval of no snow on the 11th, till the 13th. "The area visited seems to have been a belt of about 120 miles wide, extending from about Cheltenham on the north to Jersey on the South, or say from Colchester on the north to Dieppe on the south, and reaching from the south of Ireland eastwards to Holland."—*Meteorological Magazine* for April. In this part of the country an unusually heavy fall of snow took place on the night of the

Digitized by Google

7th-8th. The fall here was confined to a comparatively limited area, and was most felt in the valley of the Cairn, 18 inches having been measured at Maxwelton House. At Cargen it measured 6½ inches, which with the exception of the fall on 29th January, 1865, is the heaviest recorded in one day at this station.

(The meteorological station at Cargen may be taken as fairly representing the average of the south-west district of Scotland. Observations have been made at it uninterruptedly for 31 years.)

IV. *Dumfries Academy in 1801-3.* By Edward J. Chinnock, LL.D.

The High School of Dumfries dates back to the pre-Reformation times. The first record in existence relating to it is dated 1481, in which mention is made of "Master John Turnbull, rector of the school of Dumfries." Previous to 1803 there were four separate schools—the Grammar School, the Arithmetic and Mathematical, the English, and the Writing Schools. In that year these four schools were lodged under one roof, but there was a lapse of eighty years before they were really amalgamated and formed into one school, with a common curriculum and under one management.

In perusing the *Dumfries Weekly Journal* for 1801, I came across the following advertisement—"Sept. 8.—The Grammar School of the town of Dumfries having become vacant by the resignation of Mr Gray, the Rector, all persons who wish to become candidates for that office are desired to signify the same to any of the Magistrates, by a letter, accompanied by proper certificates of their moral characters. The Candidates are to undergo a comparative trial before two of the Professors at Edinburgh—the time and place will be afterwards advertised." The following advertisement appeared on September 22—"Vacancy in the High School of Dumfries. The office of Rector of the Grammar School of Dumfries having become vacant by the resignation of Mr Gray, appointed one of the masters of the High School at Edinburgh, the Magistrates and Council have determined that such Candidates as wish to offer themselves for the above office shall undergo a comparative examination before Professors Hill and Dalzell, of Edinburgh, upon Tuesday, the 13th day of October, 1801, in the Royal Exchange Coffee-house,

Digitized by Google

at 12 o'clock noon, where the respective candidates are desired to attend." No record appears of the name of the successful candidate, but subsequent notices show that the fortunate man was Mr Carson, subsequently Dr Aglionby Ross Carson, Rector of Royal High School of Edinburgh, one of the most famous teachers of his time. The next advertisement relating to this matter appeared on March 16, 1802—"Dumfries Academy. Notice is hereby given to the Subscribers that Contracts have been entered into and arrangements made for building and finishing the New Academy of Dumfries; and as it is necessary that the outstanding Subscriptions be immediately collected, in order to enable the Committee of Management to fulfil their part of the contracts, such of the subscribers to this laudable institution as have not yet paid in their subscriptions are requested to order payment to the undersigned secretary (who is authorised to receive and discharge the same), betwixt this and the first day of April, 1802, and thereby supersede the adoption of measures to obtain payment. By order of the Committee.—Rob. Locke, secretary."

Same date.—"Grammar School, Dumfries.—Mr Carson will begin a class for the principles of the Latin language on Monday, the 5th April. The hours of meeting are ten and two."

April 6.—"English Grammar.—John Hanning will begin a class on Monday next. Those who are prevented by other avocations from attending at school hours, and who wish to learn the language grammatically, may be accommodated at 8 o'clock of the morning or 4 in the afternoon, at which hours J. H., for their convenience, means to teach a class."

May 5.—"Dumfries Mathematical School.—On Thursday, the 13th instant, Mr White opens his geographical and mathematical classes at twelve o'clock."

May 5.—"New Academy.—On Tuesday last the foundation stone of the New Academy was laid here with great solemnity in presence of a vast concourse of people. At two o'clock the Magistrates and Committee for managing the affairs of the schools met near the Council Chamber, and from thence walked in solemn procession to the site of the new building. The magistrates, preceded by the town officers, advanced first; the Committee and a number of other gentlemen and clergy followed next; and behind them the masters and their several classes

Digitized by Google

proceeded in regular order. When they had reached the ground, the foundation stone was laid by David Staig, Esq., who, having thrice struck the stone according to the rules of Masonry, addressed the gentlemen and clergy present in an appropriate and excellent speech, and concluded with saying—'May the great Architect of the Universe prosper the undertaking. Under His auspices may it be soon and happily completed. May it ever enjoy His protection, and remain a seminary of useful learning to our latest posterity.' This being finished, the Rev. Alex. Scot, one of the ministers of Dumfries, pronounced the following address (with which we have been favoured) to the magistrates and Committee—'Gentlemen, amidst the improvements in all the useful arts for which our country is distinguished, it is pleasant to observe that the interests of literature and science have not been neglected; and it is with peculiar satisfaction, we reflect, that in no part of the kingdom has more attention been paid to this great object than in the town and neighbourhood of Dumfries. This place has long been esteemed a situation well calculated, both from its healthfulness and the abilities of the teachers, for the instruction of youth, and it has ever been the care of the magistrates to select masters eminently qualified to discharge the duties of their office. With what wisdom and impartiality the present masters have been chosen to preside in their respective departments, their well-earned reputation affords the most convincing proof. From the confidence of the public in their abilities and diligence the schools of Dumfries have become a seminary for the instruction of youth, not only to the town and country around it, but have been resorted to for education from every corner of the kingdom, and even from our most distant settlements abroad. One thing, however, was still a matter of regret. The apartments allotted for the accommodation of masters and scholars were so exceedingly disproportionate to the high character of the schools, and so much inferior to the improved style of other buildings, both public and private, that a strong wish has long been expressed to have an edifice more suitable and convenient erected. The work in which we are now engaged affords us the agreeable prospect that this wish will soon be accomplished; and we consider it as a most auspicious circumstance that the foundation stone of this new academy is laid at a time when the olive succeeds to the laurel, and bountiful

Digitized by Google

Providence diffuses amongst us the blessing of plenty. And it may be observed, as suggesting another agreeable reflection, that this seminary reckons among the contributors to the present undertaking many of her own sons, into whose opening minds she instilled the principles of useful knowledge, and whose breasts she inspired with the love of virtue, and all those liberal and manly sentiments which prepared them for filling their various situations in society with such credit as distinguishes them among their contemporaries, and reflects honour on the place which gave them birth. The masters, we doubt not, will ever esteem it their first duty and their greatest pride to support the dignity of their profession; and we indulge the pleasing hope that their scholars now standing around us, and thousands yet unborn, admiring the virtues and talents of those who have gone before them, will be stimulated to follow their example, and even, if possible, to excel them in every noble and worthy pursuit. I congratulate you, gentlemen—I congratulate the public at large—on the business of this day, and it is my prayer to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, whose blessing we should implore on all our designs, that he would prosper the present undertaking, and enable us to bring it to a happy conclusion; that He would bless those patriotic and public-spirited men by whose influence and generous efforts it has been promoted, and continue to watch over the interests of our Academy, the object of whose institution it is

> To rear the tender thought;
> To teach the young idea how to shoot;
> To pour the fresh instruction o'er the mind;
> To breathe the enlivening spirit, and to fix
> The generous purpose in the glowing breast.'

After this address was finished a general huzza was thrice repeated, and the procession returned in the same order as it came. The town bells rang during the procession, and the Dumfries Volunteers kept off the crowd. The greatest regularity was observed, and no accident happened during the whole business of the day. The gentlemen present retired to the George Inn, where they dined, and spent the afternoon with the greatest conviviality and good humour. The following is a copy of the inscription on the plate of brass deposited on the foundation stone—

Digitized by Google

Aedificii hujusce,
Utilitati publicæ sacri
Quo commodius erudiatur,
Juventus;
Pecunia in sumptum
E privatorum liberalitate
Erogata;
Senatus Populusque Dumfrisiensis,
Lectique e collatorum numero
Lapid. prim. ponend.
Curarunt
Ant die quint. Kal. Maii
Aer. Christ, 1802.
Q.D.B."

August 3, 1802.—Dumfries, 23rd July, 1802.—"The Grammar School here was this day examined by a Committee of the Presbytery of Dumfries, when the scholars in the different classes acquitted themselves in such a manner as gave great satisfaction to the examinators and all the other gentlemen present; and bore ample testimony to the diligence and ability of Mr Carson, the Rector. Every friend of youth and literature was happy to find that the School of Dumfries continues to maintain its high reputation, and that a most important duty is ably and faithfully discharged.—George Duncan, Wm. Burnside, D.D., Alex. Scott, Wm. M'Morine, Wm. Thorburn, John Wightman."

August 24.—"Grammar School, Dumfries.—The different classes will meet on Monday first, being the 30th current, at the usual summer hours. A class for the elements of Greek will begin on Monday, the 13th of September. N.B.—Mr Carson can accommodate a few borders, to whom he will pay the most particular personal attention in private."

October 19.—"English Grammar.—John Hanning will open a class on Monday next at 12 o'clock noon. Ladies, gentlemen, and heads of families favouring him with their commands may depend upon his fidelity."

January 11, 1803.—"Dumfries New Academy.—As a considerable number of subscriptions to this institution still remain unpaid, and as the Committee of Management have given instructions for immediately collecting the same, the subscribers are again respectfully solicited to pay their outstanding contributions without further delay.—Rob. Locke, Sec."

Digitized by Google

March 15, 1803.—"Grammar School, Dumfries.—A class for the rudiments of the Latin tongue will begin upon Monday, the 10th of April. Hours of meeting, ten and two o'clock. N.B.—Mr Carson can accommodate a few boarders."

April 19.—"Dumfries Mathematical School.—T. White (by whom youths are boarded) opens his mathematical and geographical classes on the second Monday of May next, at twelve o'clock noon."

July 26.—"Dumfries, 22nd July, 1803. — The Grammar School here was examined in presence of the Magistrates and other respectable gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, by a Committee of the Presbytery of Dumfries, when the boys in the different classes exhibited such specimens of improvement as did great credit to themselves, and bore ample testimony to the diligence and ability of their teacher. They merited and received the most cordial approbation of the examinators and all present on the occasion. After a suitable address from the Provost and Moderator of the Committee, the happy youths were permitted to enjoy their usual vacation. Every friend to the community will rejoice to think that the most important of its interests—the education of its youth—is entrusted to able and faithful hands; and that not only the Grammar School, but the other schools of Dumfries also continue to preserve that high character which, it is well known, they have long maintained.—Gabriel Richardson, provost; Wm. Wright, Wm. Burnside, Alex. Scott, Wm. M'Morine, Wm. Thorburn, John Wightman, ministers.

August 30.—"Grammar School, Dumfries. — The different classes will meet on Monday, the 5th of September, in the *New Academy* at the usual summer hours. A class for the elements of Greek will begin on Monday, the 19th of September. N.B.—Mr Carson accommodates boarders."

October 4.—"English Grammar.—John Hanning, English teacher, will open a class in English Grammar on Monday next. Those who cannot attend his public hours of teaching may be accommodated in his schoolroom at twelve or four o'clock. A young man having a competent knowledge of the English language, wishing for further improvement, and well recommended, by applying to Mr Hanning will hear of a comfortable situation."

Digitized by Google

FIELD MEETINGS.

Saturday, 6th June.

A party of 45 proceeded to Graitney, Canonbie, and up Eskdale, under the escort of Mr William Doughtie, forester to the Duke of Buccleuch. The beautiful Penton Linns were visited, and then the party proceeded to Gilnockie, or Johnnie Armstrong's Tower. A visit was paid to the beautiful grounds of Langholm Lodge, and then the party drove back to the railway at Gretna Green.

New Members.—Mrs Gillespie and Mrs M'Tier.

Saturday, 11th July.

A garden party was given by Mr Rimmer, the President of the Society, at Dalawoodie, at which 25 members were present.

New Members.—Miss Batty and Dr J. M. Ross.

Saturday, 6th August.

A party of 20 drove to Closeburn Manse, where they became the guests of the Rev. Dr Ramsay. A visit was paid to Closeburn Castle, which was exhibited by T. M. Brown, the factor of the estate. All that remains of the old fortress is the keep, which is a massive square structure of considerable dimensions. There is no data by which to fix the period of its erection, but it must be of great antiquity. It is in a good state of preservation, which it owes no doubt to the fact that it has always been inhabited, and although it has had constantly to adapt itself to the requirements of the times, it still possesses sufficient of its ancient characteristics to show what manner of building it must have been in the earlier part of its history. The thickness of the walls is phenomenal, being four yards all but an inch on the ground floor, eight feet and a half on the first floor, and even at

Digitized by Google

the top it is not less than six feet. The construction is of soli masonry throughout, not a facing of large stones filled with rubble between. It is said that when the present windows were formed to make the place suitable for a dwelling-house, it was necessary to use blasting powder to enlarge the openings. On the higher stories several of the old windows are still left, with stone seats in the recesses. One of the windows in the top flat is fitted with an old-fashioned frame, and on one of the panes a former inhabitant of the Castle has given vent to his feelings in the expression "Charming Grizzie Stewart, J. K." The initials are supposed to be those of Sir James Kirkpatrick, who sold the estate in 1783. But "Charming Grizzie" is not the only lady whose praises have thus been handed down to posterity, for on the same window we read, "O, Fine Christy Kirkpatrick," and "Miss Jeanie Kirkpatrick is a charming creature, 1762." A peculiarity about the building is that three of the flats are arched, while seldom if ever more than two are met with in such structures. The old entrance is still in use, but a covered-in stair leads to it. The low doorway still has its trellised iron gate, and also a wooden door with an old-fashioned "sneck." A circle of noble trees now occupy the site of the wall, and the ground which once formed the bed of the loch is clothed with luxuriant pasture. A crack can be traced from the top to the bottom of the Castle, which is supposed to have been caused by a subsidence when the loch was drained in 1859. An old boat which was then found embedded in the moss is now in the museum at Edinburgh.

Mr Brown very much laments the absence of a haunted chamber to show the many visitors who turn aside to have a look at the old place, or a ghost story to entertain them with. The family of Kirkpatrick, however, was too long associated with the place to be free of the superstitions which attached themselves to so many old families. It is said that when a death was to take place in the family a swan appeared on the loch which surrounded the Castle. The last time that this evil omen was seen is said to have been on the day when Sir Thomas, the first baronet, was leading his third bride to the altar. His son Roger went out and saw the ominous sign, and on returning to the house overwhelmed with melancholy his father railed on him for his desponding appearance, alleging the stepmother to be the cause

Digitized by Google

of his sadness. The young man, saith the story, only answered, "Perhaps ere long you may also be sorrowful," and expired suddenly that very night.

The party were again taken in hand by Dr Ramsay, who led them to the churchyard, the principal object of interest there being the ruins of the old church. The only part of the sacred edifice now standing is the belfry gable, with a yard or two of wall on each side pierced with windows. A church of some kind existed in the twelfth century, but how much earlier is not known. The stones forming the present remaining gable suggest three different epochs. Forming part of the inside of the wall are weather worn stones which were evidently part of some previous building—perhaps an earlier church; and the portion which was added to the height in order to admit the erection of galleries in 1741 is still traceable. With the aid of a ladder, Mr Barbour, architect, clambered to the belfry to inspect the bell. A lengthy inscription encircles it, which he was unable to read, owing to the difficulty in getting round the belfry, but he was able to decipher the date 1606 quite distinctly.

New Members.—Mr T. M. Brown, Mrs Jackson, Rev. D. O. Ramsay, D.D., Miss Ramsay, and Mr John Stevens, M.A.

Saturday, 5th September.

The fourth field meeting of the session was held in the Moffat district. The party drove from Beattock Station to Auchencass, a ruined castle in Kirkpatrick-Juxta parish, and made a careful examination of the ruins which stand on a piece of ground between the Evan and the Garpol waters. The castle is supposed to have been built by Randolph, Earl of Murray, and Regent of Scotland. All that now remains of it are pieces of the walls, from 10 to 15 feet thick, and one of the turrets in a good state of preservation. The interior of the quadrangle is 120 feet. Hogg makes it the residence of the famous Annandale warlock, William Wilkin—

> To Auchin Castle Wilkin hied
> On Evan banks sae green;
> And lived and died like other men,
> For aught that could be seen.

After paying a visit to Garpol Linn, the party proceeded to

Digitized by Google

Holmshaw, and inspected the Roman camp and supposed fort there. The traces of the Roman road were also inspected with great interest. The fort on Chapel Hill, supposed to be British, was next visited, and then the party drove to the site of the old chapel, which is said to have belonged to the Knights Templar. The Order was suppressed in 1316, so that, if this chapel belonged to them, it must be at least 600 years old. A large part of the east gable is still preserved, and of the west gable an entire window, which would indicate that the chapel was a fine and costly edifice. The "Three Stannin' Stanes" were next visited. Some suppose that they are of Roman origin, the Roman road having passed near this point. Others hold them to be of Druidical origin; while a third supposition is that they commemorate the defeat at this place of Edward Balliol by Douglas and Randolph. The next move was through the town of Moffat to Alton Moat, supposed to mark the spot of the "auld toon" of Moffat in very early times. After driving to the Well, the party returned to Moffat, and paid a visit to the old churchyard, which contains the tombs of John Louden Macadam, the improver of the system of road-making, and of John Williamson, the discoverer of the Hartfell Spa. It was suggested by Dr Chinnock that the heritors of Dumfries might take a lesson from those of Moffat in the way to keep a churchyard. The arrangements of the day were under the management of Mr John Thorburn Johnstone, of Moffat, a member of the Society.

New Member.—Mr Samuel Macmillan, of Moffat.

Report on Herbarium. By Mr G. F. Scott-Elliot, M.A.

The herbarium is rapidly becoming one of the very best collections of British plants in Scotland. In fact, excepting Edinburgh and Glasgow, I know of no Scotch public institution which possesses so full a representation as that of the Society. I have compared recently the earlier orders to the end of Cruciferæ with the British Museum, and named so far as I could every sheet after the types in that collection. Where possible I have hunted down every specimen to the nearest name in the London catalogue, and members of the Society may, I think, be pretty certain

Digitized by Google

that, in these earlier orders, even the critical species are what they profess to be. The rest of the herbarium is not named up to the London catalogue, but after Bentham's Flora, and only pretends to give the species in Bentham's sense.

I regret to say, however, that members of the Society have not availed themselves of the collection to the extent which I hoped. Miss Hannay has very kindly offered to allow any member of the Society to consult it during the winter at her house (St. Mary's House). The Society is deeply indebted to Miss Hannay for again offering to take charge of the herbarium during the cold and wet winter months, when it might perhaps suffer damage in a fireless room. While on this point, I should like to point out to members the importance of consulting frequently the plants themselves. A text book of botany is simply an attempt to portray in words the facts which, in a herbarium, are open to one's hand and eye. Every text book is liable to error, and no text books perhaps are more misleading than botanical ones. The compiler of such a book, being human, makes mistakes; and the student, being also human, is liable to misunderstand the compiler. Hence, for saving of time, and for real nature study, the study of a text book should be quite subordinate to that of the plants themselves.

The Society has also to thank the Misses Hannay for the mounting of every specimen—a labour which has occupied an enormous time, and which requires the greatest care and unremitting attention. The manner in which the plants have been mounted is simply perfect, as members may see for themselves. We have also to thank the Misses Hannay for a very large number of specimens, and thanks are likewise due for specimens received from the following ladies and gentlemen—Miss Adams and Miss S. D. Johnston, Miss Milligan, Miss Copland, Miss Hamilton, Mrs Thomson, and Mrs Gilchrist-Clark; and Mr Coles, Mr Corrie, Mr Harper, Mr J. T. Johnstone, Mr M'Andrew, Mr Masterman, and Mr Scott-Elliot.

I venture, however, to ask the members of the Society again to send as many specimens as possible to me or the Misses Hannay, even if it is only for naming, partly because it is only in this way that names can be kept quite correct, and partly in order that the many doubtful or rare plants of the County can be successfully kept in order. It is very important that specimens with ripe fruit should be sent, as in many critical forms the fruit

Digitized by Google

is the distinguishing characteristic. Full details of the environment and altitude add a real scientific value to every specimen; and I am sorry to say that such details are very rarely present. With the sanction of the Society, I propose next summer to begin exchanging, so that we may bring the herbarium up to and perhaps beyond that of any other Society.

NEWTON, *September, 1891.*

HONORARY MEMBERS.

E. G. BAKER, F.L.S., British Museum.
J. G. BAKER, F.R.S., Royal Herbarium, Kew.
ROBERT BARBOUR (late Secretary), Cape Town.
ARTHUR BENNETT, F.L.S., Croydon.
GEORGE F. BLACK, Ph.D., Antiquarian Museum, Edinburgh.
J. HARVIE BROWN, F.L.S., Dunipace, Larbert.
WILLIAM CARRUTHERS, F.R.S., British Museum.
JAMES DAIRON, F.G.S., Glasgow.
Dr ANSTRUTHER DAVIDSON, Los Angles, California.
Dr BETTERSHELL GILL, London.
Dr JAMES GRANT (Bey), Cairo.
PETER GRAY, Edinburgh.
R. HENDERSON, Manitoba.
J. J. KING, Glasgow.
WILLIAM HASTINGS, Taxidermist, Dumfries.
WILLIAM LENNON, Dumfries.
WILLIAM M'ILWRAITH, Rockhampton, Queensland.
J. M'MEEKING, Hobart Town.
Dr DAVID SHARP, F.R.S, Cambridge University.
J. STARFORTH, Architect, Edinburgh.
Dr ROBERT H. TAYLOR, Liverpool.
JOSEPH THOMSON, F.R.G.S., Thornhill.
R. TURNER, Glasgow.
JOSEPH WILSON (late Secretary), Liverpool.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Miss DOBIE, Penfillan House, Penpont.
ALEXANDER YOUNG HERRIES, J.P., Spottes.
J. J. HOPE-JOHNSTONE, J.P., Raehills.
W. H. MAXWELL, J.P., Munches.
W. J. MAXWELL, Advocate (Chairman of County Council), Terraughtie.
W. D. ROBINSON-DOUGLAS, J.P., Orchardton.
MARK J. STEWART, M.P., Barrister, Southwick.

Digitized by Google

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS.

This Section was Presented by R. Dinwiddie, Esq., of New York, being the Scientific Part of His Late Father's (R. Dinwiddie, of New York) Library.

11. Academy of Sciences. Transaction in New York. 4 vols.
25. Agardh, C. A. System of Algae.
57. Agassiz, L. Principles of Zoology.
61. Agassiz, E. C. and A. Seaside Studies in Natural History.
119. America. Annual Report, Coast Survey.
10. American Association, Proceedings of. 29 vols.
12. Annals of Lyceum of Natural History of New York. 11 vols.
30. Bailey, J. W. Microscopical Examination of Soundings.
18. Balfour, J. H. Botany.
55. Bain, Dr A. Zoology, Physiology, and Meteorology.
94. Beale, L. Illustrations, how to Work the Microscope.
95. Beale, L. How to Work the Microscope.
82. Beale, L. The Microscope in Medicine.
58. Beneden, P. J. Van. Animal Parasites.
100. Beck, R. The Achromatic Microscopes.
43. Berkely, N. J. Cryptogamic Botany.
116. Brewster, Sir D. Natural Magic.
51. Brewster, Sir D. Treatise on the Microscope.
68. Carpenter, W. B. Animal Physiology.
89. Carpenter, W. B. The Microscope.
15. Carpenter, W. B. Vegetable Physiology and Systematic Botany.
124. Cassino, S. E. Naturalists' Directory. 1878.
88. Catlow, Agnes. Drops of Water.
76. Chambers, R. Vestiges of Creation.
86. Clarke, L. L. Objects for the Microscope.
41. Cooke, N. C. Grevillea. Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4 (bound in 2 vols).
22. Cooke, N. C. Handbook of British Fungi. 2 vols.
39. Cooke, N. C. Fungi.
21. Cooke, N. C. Curiosities of Vegetation.
40. Cooke, N. C. Microscopic Fungi.
19. Cooke, N. C. Ponds and Ditches.
20. Cooke, N. C. Woodlands.
73. Dana, J. D. Manual of Geology.
74. Dana, J. D. Mineralogy.
93. Davis, T. Preparation, &c., of Microscopic Objects.
13. Edgeworth, N. Parkenham. Pollen.
49. Edwards, A. M. Life Beneath the Waters.
32. Farlow, W. G. Marine Algae of New England.
91. Ferguson, J. The Microscope and its Revelations.
114. Fergusson, J. Astronomy.
122. Gibbon, N. L. H. On the Amazon Valley. 3 vols.

Digitized by Google

120. Geological Survey. U.S.A.
118. Glasgow. Science Lectures.
105. Goring, C. R. Microscopic Illustrations.
85. Gould, C. Companion to the Microscope.
57. Gould, A. A. Principles of Zoology.
23. Grattann, W. H. British Marine Algae.
24. Gray, J. E. British Algae.
17. Gray, A. Manual of Botany.
37. Grove, W. B. Bacteria and Yeast Fungi.
87. Griffith, J. W. Text Book of the Microscope.
98. Hannover, A. Construction, &c., of Microscope.
28. Harvey, W. H. British Marine Algae.
33. Hassall, A. H. British Fresh Water Algae.
79. Hassall, A. H. Microscopic Anatomy. 2 vols
27. Hervey, A. B. Sea Mosses.
65. Hitchcock, Romyn. Fresh Water Rhizopods.
53. Henfrey, A. Botanical and Physiological Memoirs.
104. Hogg, J. The Microscope.
59. Huxley, T. H. Crayfish.
113. Ives, C. The Isles of Summer
66. Jones, J. M. The Naturalist in Bermuda.
102. King, J. The Microscopist's Companion.
80. Kölliber, A. Manual of Human Microscopical Anatomy
46. Kützing, F. T. Bacillarien.
26. Kützing, F. T. Species Algarum.
96. Lardner, D. The Microscope.
47. Landsborough, Rev. D. British Zoophytes.
48. Landsborough, Rev. D. Seaweeds.
35. Lilljeborg, C. P. Diatomacearum.
36. Lindsay, W. L. British Lichens.
109. Lommel, E. The Nature of Light.
54. Macdonald, J. D. Microscopical Examination of Drinking Water.
83. Mandl, L. Traité Pratique du Microscope.
70. Mantell, G. A. Animalcules.
75. Mantell, G. A. Geology. 2 vols.
72. Mantell, G. A. Thoughts on a Pebble.
117. Manchester. Science Lectures. 2 vols.
121. Maury, M. F. Physical Geolography of Sea.
103. Micrographic Dictionary.
3. Microscopical Science, Quarterly Journal of. Vols. 1-8, and New Series, 1-14.
4. Microscopy, The American Journal of. Vols. 1-6 (in 3 vols.).
5. Microscopical, The American Monthly Journal. Vol. 7.
6. Microscopical Society of New York, Journal of. Vol. 1.
7. Microscopical Journal, The American Quarterly. Vol. 1 (1879). Vols. 1 and 2 (1880).
8. Microscopical Society (London), The Transactions of. Vol. 1.
9. Microscopical Society (London) Journal. 2 vols. (1) 1841 (2) 1842.

Digitized by Google

101. Microscopical Tracts.
45. Moore, Thomas. British Ferns.
1. Nature, A Journal of Science. Vols. 1-30.
106. Natural Philosophy. 2 vols.
34. Nave, J. Algae, Fungi, &c.
115. Nichol, J. P. Architecture of the Heavens.
125. Nordenskiold, A. E. Voyage of the Vega.
99. Notcutt, W. L. The Microscope.
78. Page, D. Rudiments of Geology.
110. Pereira, J. Lectures on Polarised Light.
69. Quekett, J. Lectures on Histology.
84. Quekett, J. The Microscope.
22. Rabenhorst, L. Flora Europaea Algarum.
30. Rabenhorst, L. Süsswasser Diatomaceen.
112. Reid, H. Chemistry of Art.
50. Rennie, J. Botany and Insects.
77. Rhind, William. Geology of Scotland.
60. Romanes, G. J. Jelly Fish, Star Fish, &c.
2. Science Gossip. Hardwicke. Vols. 1-23.
14. Schacht, Dr Hermann. Microscopical Vegetable Anatomy and Physiology.
62. Schmidt, Oscar. The Mammalia.
81. Schwann, T. H. Microscopical Researches.
52. Slack, H. J. Marvels of Pond Life.
31. Smith, Rev. W. British Diatomaceae.
123. Smithsonian Report. 1868.
38. Sprengel, K. Cryptogramous Plants.
90. Suffolk, W. T. Microscopical Manipulation.
44. Trouessart, E. L. Microbes, Ferments, and Moulds.
108. Tyndall, J. Notes on Light.
111. Tyndall, J. Forms of Water.
97. Ward, Mrs. Microscope Teachings.
67. White, Rev. Gilbert. Natural History of Seborne.
71. Wood, Rev. J. G. Common Objects of Microscope.
16. Wood, A. Class Book of Botany.
29. Wood, H. C. History of the Fresh Water Algae of N. America.
107. Woodward, C. On Polarised Light.
56. Woodward, S. P. Molusca.
63. Woodward, S. P. Molusca.
92. Wythes, J. H. The Microscopist.

GENERAL CATALOGUE.

Presented by Members and other Societies, &c.

167. Annan and its Neighbourhood. F. Miller.
138. Annotation on the Bible. Haaks. 1857. 2 vols.

Digitized by Google

177. Antiquarian Society, Transactions of Dumfriesshire and Galloway. 1862-68.
126. Antiquaries of Scotland, Proceedings of the Society of. 11 vols. 1878-79 to 1889-90.
127. Antiquaries of Scotland, Transactions of. Vol. I., 1782-92, and vol. VI., 1867.
128. Antiquary, The. 1887.
131. Bain's Calendar of Documents. Vols. I. and II.
130. Bible, The Dutch Annotations on the whole. By Thomas Haak. 1857. Vols. I. and II.
132. Birds, History of New Zealand. By W. L. Buller. Vol. I.
180. Botanica, Philosophia. By Caroli Linnæ. 1755.
181. (Botany) General Plantarum. By Caroli Linnæ. 1764.
133. British Association Reports. 5 vols. 1886 to 1890.
179. British Association Handbook. 1891.
134. Burnside, Dr, Manuscript History of Dumfries.
172. Currency, Report on U.S.A. Published by Smithsonian Institute. 1885.
134. Dumfries, MSS. History of. By Dr Burnside.
135. Dumfries, MSS. History of. By Theodore Edgar.
136. Dumfries, MSS. Copy of, Trades Minutes. 1601-1809.
163. Dumfries Presbytery, Catalogue of Books. 1784.
164. Dumfries Society Library Catalogue. 1851.
168. Dumfries Savings Bank. By Rev. Henry Duncan. 1815.
138. *Dumfries Weekly Journal.* 1793-95, 1801-1803, 1809-15, 1826-27.
137. *Dumfries Weekly Magazine.* Vol. XV. 1776.
177. Dumfries Natural History and Antiquarian Society, Transactions of. 1862-68. 1 vol.
135. Edgar, MS. History of Dumfries.
171. Ethnology, Bureau of. 5 vols. 1879 to 1884.
176. Ethnology, North American U.S., Survey of, Rocky Mountains. Vol. V.
182. Flora of Dumfriesshire. By G. F. Scott-Elliot.
160. Flora of West Yorkshire. F. A. Lees.
139. Fossils, Western Scottish Catalogue of.
169. Freemasons at Thornhill, Lodge of. By D. M. Lyon.
140. Fungi, British. Peter Gray.
141. Gardener's Dictionary. P. Miller. 3 vols. 1748.
173. Geological and Geographical Survey, U.S.A. 5 vols. 1870 to 1877.
174. Geological Survey Report, U.S. 1 vol. 1867-69.
175. Geological Survey Report, U.S. J. M. Powell. 8 vols. 1881 to 1888.
183. Geology of Moffat. By W. Carruthers. 1862.
142. Grevillea. In 2 vols., 1-3, 4-6.
143. Highland Society's Transactions. Vol. I. 1799.
144. Historic Society, Lancashire. 3 vols., I., IV.-V., and VII.
146. Insectorum Sive Minimorum Nimalium Theatrum. Tho. Movfeti. 1634.

Digitized by Google

145. Irish Royal Academy. Vol. XIV.
147. Lincluden, Chronicles of. W. M'Dowall.
148. Linnean Society. Vols. XIII. to XXIX. Zoology.
149. Linnean Society. Vols. XIV. to XXV. Botany.
166. "Macs" in Galloway. By P. Dudgeon.
150. Magnetic Observations. J. A. Brown. 6 vols.
103B. Micrographic Dictionary. J. N. Griffith. (See also 103.)
151. Medals, Treatise on. Addison. 1726.
165. Notes on the Established Churches of Dumfries. 1865.
152. Philosophical Journal. 9 vols. 1848-54.
161. Physician's Library. Nich. Culpeper. 1653.
153. Poems and Songs of Susanna Hawkins. Vols. IX. and X.
154. Quair, The King's. A poem by James I. 1815.
155. Road Guide. James Lennox.
2B. Science Gossip. Hardwick's. 1886-87. (See also 2.)
156. Scientific Society's Year Book. 1884.
158. Scotia Illustrata Sive Prodromus Historiae Naturalis. Dr R. Sibbald. 1715.
157. Sea Weeds. P. Gray.
162. Sermons. J. C. 1685.
178. Shells, Land and Freshwater, of the British Isles. By R. Rimmer.
170. Smithsonian Report. 30 vols. 1874 to 1888.
185. Sculptured Stones of Eastern Scotland. By. R. Carr.
159. War, Art of. Wightman's Copy.

Also, a large number of unbound volumes, consisting chiefly of kindred Society's publications, both British and Foreign.

Digitized by Google

RULES.

1. The Society shall be called the "DUMFRIESSHIRE AND GALLOWAY NATURAL HISTORY AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY."

2. The aims of the Society shall be to secure a more frequent interchange of thought and opinion among those who devote themselves to the study of Natural History, Archæology, and Kindred Subjects; and to elicit and diffuse a taste for these studies.

3. The Society shall consist of Ordinary and Honorary Members. The Ordinary Members shall be persons proposed and elected at any Meeting of the Society by a vote of the majority present. The Honorary Members shall be persons distinguished for attainments connected with the objects of the Society, and elected on the recommendation of the Council.

4. Ordinary Members shall on election pay the sum of 2s 6d entrance fee (ladies excepted), and contribute annually 5s in advance, or such other sum as may be agreed upon at the Annual Meeting. When more than one person from the same family joins the Society all after the first shall pay half-fee, and the maximum amount from any one family shall not exceed 10s. By making a single payment of £2 2s they become Members for Life.

5. The Office-bearers of the Society shall consist of a President, four Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Curator of Museum, and Curator of Herbarium, who, together with Ten other Members, shall constitute the Council, holding office for One Year only, but being eligible for re-election. Three to form a quorum.

6. The WINTER MEETINGS of the Society shall be held on the FIRST FRIDAY of each month, beginning with October and ending with May, at which papers will be read and discussed, objects of interest exhibited, and other business transacted.

7. The FIELD MEETINGS shall be held on the FIRST SATURDAY of each month, beginning with June and ending with September,

Digitized by Google

to visit and examine places of interest, and otherwise carry out the aims of the Society. Arrangements for these Meetings shall as far as possible be made at the April Meeting.

8. The ANNUAL MEETING shall be held on the FIRST FRIDAY of OCTOBER, at which the Office-Bearers and other Members of Council shall be elected, Reports (general and financial) submitted, and other business transacted.

9. A Member may introduce a friend to any Meeting of the Society—such friend not to be admitted more than twice during the Session.

10. The Secretary shall keep a Minute Book of the Society's Proceedings, and a Register of Members, and shall give in a Report at the Annual Meeting.

11. The Treasurer shall collect the subscriptions, take charge of the funds, and make payments therefrom under the direction of the Council, to whom he shall present an Annual Account, to be audited for submission at the Annual Meeting.

12. The Secretary shall at any time call a Special Meeting of the Society on receiving the instructions of the Council, or a requisition signed by Six Members.

13. The Society shall have the right to publish in whole or in part any paper read before it.

14. Members whose subscriptions are in arrears for nine months, and have received notice from the Treasurer, cease to be Members unless satisfactory reasons for non-payment be given to the Council.

15. Alterations of any Rule, or the addition of New Rules, shall only be made with the consent of three-fourths of the Members present at any meeting, notice of the same having been given at the previous Monthly Meeting.

PRINTED AT THE COURIER AND HERALD OFFICES, DUMFRIES.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

* PB-36001-SB
5-22T

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

TOZZER LIBRARY

3 2044 042 046 318

A FINE IS INCURRED IF THIS BOOK IS NOT RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED BELOW.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google